DECLASSIFIED POL 14 VIET S

30

316

INCOMING TELEGRAM *Department of State*

2

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Action

FE VV MJA071JIA550

Info CC RUEHC
DE RUMJIR 939A 1590505
ZNY CCCCC
O 080449Z
SS
G FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
L TO RUEAC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5368
H INFO RUHLHQ/CINCPAC 2833
P STATE GRNC
NSC BI
INR

07496

1966 JUN 8 AM 1 08

DEPARTMENT OF STATE AUTOMD.
REVIEWED BY Joan Szeluga DATE 10/2/68
RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON (S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED ☐ RELEASABLE ☑
RELEASE DENIED ☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE JUNE 08.

RSR

REF : EMBTEL 5289

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

1. WE NOTE FROM AP THAT SENATOR JAVITS SAID ABOUT JUNE 6 THAT VIETNAMESE ELECTORAL LAW WILL DENY VOTE TO THOSE WHO "DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY WORK FOR COMMUNISTS OR NEUTRALISTS". AS REPORTED REFTEL, THIS IS NOT RPT NOT THE CASE. DRAFT RPT DRAFT ELECTORAL LAW CARRIES NO RPT NO PROVISION DENYING VOTE TO COMMUNISTS AND NEUTRALISTS. PROVISION ABOUT COMMUNISTS AND NEUTRALISTS APPLIES ONLY TO CANDIDATES, NOT RPT NOT TO VOTERS.

2. SUGGEST DEPT MAY WISH INFORM SENATOR JAVITS TAKE OTHER APPROPRIATE STEPS CORRECT WHAT IS APPARENTLY WIDESPREAD MISUNDERSTANDING ABOUT CONTENTS DRAFT ELECTORAL LAW. LODGE
BT

NOTE: Advance copy to S/S-O 1:15 a.m., June 8.

Passed White House, DOD, CIA, USIA, NSA 1:15 a.m., June 8.

Saigon 5368

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

INCOMING TELEGRAM *Department of State*

6

Action

FE

Info

SS
G
SP
SAH
I
H
IO
P
NSC
INR
NIC
AID

FSR

UNCLASSIFIED

8701

1966 JUN 8 PM 11 29

VV EUB385PEB111
PP RUEHC
DE RUABSG 978E/1 1591200
ZNR UUUUU
P 081200Z ZFG
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5380
INFO ZEN/AMCONSUL DANANG UNN
ZEN/AMCONSUL HUE UNN
STATE GRNC
BT
UNCLAS SECTION ONE OF NINE JUNE 08

SUBJECT: ELECTION LAW DRAFTING COMMITTEE

1. FOLLOWING IS UNOFFICIAL RPT UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION OF FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ONE (SUBCOMMITTEE FOR DRAFTING ELECTION LAW):

ART. 1. THE ELECTION OF DEPUTIES TO THE NATIONAL CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY, SET BY DECREE-LAW 14/66 OF APRIL 14, WILL BE FIXED AS FOLLOWS:

CHAPTER I

DATE, ELECTORAL DISTRICTS AND NUMBER OF DEPUTIES

ART. 2. THE ELECTION OF NATIONAL CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY DEPUTIES FOR ALL CONSTITUENCIES WILL BE HELD ON SEPTEMBER 2, 1966.

IF FOR ANY REASON ELECTIONS CANNOT BE HELD ON THE SCHEDULED DAY, LOCAL AUTHORITIES WILL HOLD THEM ON THE NEXT MOST FAVORABLE DAY AFTER INFORMING THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR.

ART. 3. THE NATIONAL CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY WILL BE COMPOSED OF 159 DEPUTIES, SELECTED AS FOLLOWS:

DECLASSIFIED

IN PRINCIPLE, EVERY 100,000 PEOPLE WILL ELECT ONE DEPUTY.

ANY ELECTORAL DISTRICT HAVING 50,000 PERSONS ABOVE AND BEYOND THE ROUND NUMBERS OF 100,000 WILL ELECT AN ADDITIONAL DEPUTY.

HOWEVER, ANY CONSTITUENCY WHICH HAS LESS THAN 100,000 PEOPLE WILL ALSO ELECT ONE DEPUTY.

ELECTORAL DISTRICTS ARE PROVINCES AND AUTONOMOUS CITIES.

PAGE 03 RUABSG 978E/1 UNCLAS

IN SAIGON AND IN GIA DINH PROVINCE, THERE WILL BE MANY CONSTITUENCIES, EACH ONE COVERING ONE OR MORE ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICTS (QUAN).

SIX NATIONAL CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY SEATS WILL BE RESERVED FOR MONTAGNARD COMPATRIOTS IN SIX PROVINCES: PLEIKU, KONTUM, DARLAC, TUYEN DUC, QUANG NGAI AND LINH THUAN.

SIX NATIONAL CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY SEATS WILL ALSO BE RESERVED FOR VIETNAMESE COMPATRIOTS OF KHMER DESCENT: TWO FOR VINH BINH PROVINCE AND ONE EACH FOR BA XUYEN, CHAU DOC, KIEN GIANG AND BAC LIEU.

MONTAGNARD COMPATRIOTS OR VIETNAMESE COMPATRIOTS OF KHMER DESCENT IN PROVINCES WHICH HAVE SEATS RESERVED FOR THEM WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO RUN FOR OTHER SEATS IN THOSE PROVINCES.

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF DEPUTIES AND CONSTITUENCIES WILL BE FIXED IN A LIST ANNEXED TO THE PRESENT DECREE-LAW.

CHAPTER II

XQ--'023*

--

MIRCJ* ELECTORS

HY* --------

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

ART. 4. ELECTORS IN EVERY CONSTITUENCY ARE VIETNAMESE CITIZENS, MALE OR FEMALE, 18 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1965, INSCRIBED ON THE ELECTORS' LIST AND HOLDERS OF REGULAR ELECTORS' CARDS, EXCEPT THOSE DEPRIVED OF THE RIGHTS OF CITIZENSHIP.

EACH CITIZEN WILL BE INSCRIBED ON ONLY ONE ELECTORS' LIST.

IN PROVINCES THE LIST OF ELECTORS OF EACH VILLAGE WILL BE ORGANIZED BY THE VILLAGE COUNCIL AND WILL BE POSTED FOR THE FIRST TIME ON JULY 10, 1966 AT THE VILLAGE COUNCIL'S OFFICE.

IN MUNICIPALITIES, THE LIST OF ELECTORS OF EVERY QUARTER WILL BE SET BY THE CHIEF OF THE MUNICIPALITY AND POSTED ON THE ABOVE-MENTIONED DAY AT THE QUARTER'S OFFICE.

IN SAIGON CAPITAL, THE LIST OF ELECTORS OF EVERY QUARTER WILL BE FIXED BY THE CHIEF OF DISTRICT ON THE ABOVE-MENTIONED DAY AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE, THE CHIEF OF QUARTER'S OFFICE OR AT ANY PLACE CONSIDERED NECESSARY BY THE MAYOR OF SAIGON.

MOREOVER, A COPY OF THE ELECTOR LISTS WILL BE POSTED AT THE ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS OF ALL VILLAGES, CITY QUARTERS, MUNICIPALITIES AND THE CAPITOL CITY.

ELECTORS WHO HAVE CHANGED THEIR RESIDENCE AND WHO WISH TO VOTE IN THEIR NEW ELECTORAL DISTRICT SHOULD MAKE DECLARATION TO LOCAL AUTHORITIES (VILLAGE, SECTOR, QUARTER, DISTRICT) AT THEIR OLD RESIDENCE, ASKING FOR THE STRIKING OF THEIR NAMES FROM THE LIST OF ELECTORS, AND THE DELIVERY OF A CERTIFICATE TO BE PRESENTED TO AUTHORITIES AT THEIR NEW RESIDENCE FOR INSCRIPTION OF THEIR NAMES ON THE LIST OF ELECTORS NOT LATER THAN JUNE 30, 1966.

(MORE)
LODGE
BT

*AS RECEIVED. CORRECTION TO FOLLOW

NOTE: ADVANCE COPY TO S/S-O AT 11:35 P.M., 6/8/66
PASSED WHITE HOUSE, DOD, CIA, USIA, NSA AT 11:35 PM 6/8/66

DECLASSIFIED

DECL: POL 14 VIETS

INCOMING TELEGRAM *Department of State*

6
Action
FE
Info
SS
G
SP
SAH
L
H
IO
P
NSC
INR
NIC
AID
RSR

UNCLASSIFIED

P 081200Z
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO RUDAC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5380 7949
INFO ZEN/AMCONSUL DANANG UNN 1966 JUN 8 AM 9 33
ZEN/AMCONSUL HUE UNN
STATE GRNC
BT
UNCLAS SECTION TWO OF NINE JUNE 08

ART. 5. FOR MILITARYMEN AND THEIR FAMILIES RESIDING IN MILITARY CAMPS, THE LIST OF ELECTORS WILL BE ORGANIZED BY COMMANDERS AT BATTALION LEVEL TO BE AMENDED AND TRANSMITTED TO MAYORS, CHIEF OF MUNICIPALITY OR CHIEFS OF PROVINCE FOR COUNTERSIGNING BEFORE POSTING.

ART. 6. CIVIL SERVANTS AND MILITARYMEN ON MISSIONS, REASSIGNMENT OR UNABLE TO RETURN TO PLACES OF RESIDENCE WHERE THEIR NAMES ARE REGISTERED ON THE ELECTORS' LIST, MAY CASE THEIR VOTES AT THEIR ACTUAL LOCATION ON ELECTION DAY WITHOUT HAVING TO PREVIOUSLY REGISTER THEIR NAMES ON THE ELECTORS' LIST.

PAGE 2 RUABSG 978E/2 UNCLAS

BESIDES THEIR VOTING CARDS, CIVIL SERVANTS AND MILITARY MEN MUST SHOW IN ADDITION A CERTIFICATE RELATED TO THE SPECIAL CASES DESCRIBED ABOVE AND DULY DELIVERED BY THE ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITIES.

ART. 7. CITIZENS WHO FULFILL ALL CONDITIONS FOR VOTING BUT WHOSE NAMES DO NOT APPEAR ON THE LIST OF VOTERS OR APPEAR INCORRECTLY, HAVE THE RIGHT TO COMPLAIN.

THE COMPLAINTS MUST BE LODGED AT VILLAGE, QUARTER, OR SECTOR BY JULY 30, 1966 AT THE LATEST. THE AGENCIES WHICH RECEIVE THE COMPLAINTS WILL DELIVER A RECEIPT TO THE INTERESTED PERSONS AND SEND THE COMPLAINTS, TOGETHER WITH THEIR OPINION, TO THE CITY, TOWN OR PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES.

WITHIN FIVE (5) DAYS FOLLOWING THE END OF THE PERIOD FOR LODGING COMPLAINTS, THE LISTS OF VOTERS AND COMPLAINTS, IF ANY, WILL BE DISPATCHED BY THE MAYORS OR CHIEFS OF PROVINCE TO THE COMMITTEE STIPULATED IN ARTICLE 15 FOR FINAL DECISION.

THE LISTS OF VOTERS MUST BE EXAMINED, DECIDED AND SENT BACK TO THE INTERESTED ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITIES WITHIN SEVEN (7) DAYS.
THE ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITIES WILL POST THE LISTS OF VOTERS

UNCLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

PAGE 3 RUABSG 978E/2 UNCLAS
FOR THE SECOND TIME AT THE PLACES STIPULATED IN ARTICLE 4 ON AUGUST 20, 1966 AT THE LATEST.

ART. 8. THE PROCEDURES FOR MAKING AND ISSUANCE OF VOTING CARDS ARE PROVIDED BY THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR.

CHAPTER III

CANDIDATES

ART. 9. MALE OR FEMALE CITIZENS FULFILLING THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS MAY RUN FOR SEATS IN THE NATIONAL CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY:

1) CANDIDATES MUST HAVE UNINTERRUPTED VIETNAMESE NATIONALITY SINCE THEIR BIRTH, OR HAVE ADOPTED VIENAMESE NATIONALITY FOR AT LEAST TEN YEARS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1965, OR HAVE RETURNED TO VIETNAMESE NATIONALITY FOR AT LEAST THREE YEARS AS OF THE ELECTION DAY.

THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF ACQUIRING NATIONALITY IS THE DATE OF SIGNING OF THE DECREE-LAW AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF VIETNAMESE NATIONALITY. THE RETURN TO VIETNAMESE NATIONALITY'S EFFECTIVE DATE IS THE DATE OF THE SIGNING OF THE DECREE-LAW AUTHORIZING THE RETURN TO VIETNAMESE NATIONALITY, OR THE DATE OF THE APPLICANT'S DECLARATION TO COMPETENT AUTHORITIES ASKING FOR

PAGE 4 RUABSG 978E/2 UNCLAS
RETURN TO VIETNAMESE NATIONALITY IN THE CASE THAT THE LAW HAS PROVIDED THAT ONLY AN APPLICANT'S DECLARATION IS NECESSARY FOR RETURN TO VIETNAMESE NATIONALITY.

NATURALIZED CITIZENS WHO HAVE ACCOMPLISHED MERITORIOUS SERVICE FOR THE VIETNAMESE FATHERLAND, OR RETURNEES TO VIETNAMESE NATIONALITY MAY HAVE THE ABOVE-MENTIONED TEN OR THREE YEAR PERIOD SHORTENED BY A SPECIAL DECREE-LAW FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE.

BESIDES, NATURALIZED CITIZENS MUST BE ABLE TO SPEAK, READ AND WRITE THE VIETNAMESE LANGUAGE, IN A CLEAR MANNER.

2) CANDIDATES MUST BE 25 YEARS OLD BY ELECTION DAY.

3) CANDIATES MUST ENJOY ALL RIGHTS OF CITIZENSHIP

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

4) CANDIDATES MUST HAVE RESIDED ON VIETNAMESE TERRITORY FOR AT LEAST ONE YEAR IMMEDIATELY BEFORE THE ELECTION DAY.

5) CANDIDATES MUST HAVE COMPLIED WITH MILITARY DRAFT REGULATIONS.

6) CANDIDATES MUST NOT BE AMONG THOSE ON THE LIST OF UNDESERVING ELEMENTS COVERED IN ART. 10.

(MORE)
LODGE
BT

NOTE: PASSED S/S-O, WHITE HOUSE, DOD, CIA, USIA 6/8/66, 10:30AM.

PASSED NSA 6/8/66, 10:30AM.

DECLASSIFIED

INCOMING TELEGRAM Department of State

POL 14 VIET S
part of (317)

6

UNCLASSIFIED

Action
FE
Info
SS
G
SP
SAH
L
H
IO
P
NSC
INR
NIC
AID
RSR

P 081200Z
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5330 CN 7963
INFO ZEN/AMCONSUL DANANG UNN
ZEN/AMCONSUL HUE UNN
STATE GRNC
BT
UNCLAS SECTION THREE OF NINE JUNE 08

1966 JUN 8 AM 9 50

Saigon 3380

ART. 10 THE FOLLOWING WILL BE VIEWED AS DISQUALIFIED ELEMENTS NOT ALLOWED TO BECOME NATIONAL CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY CANDIDATES:

1) THOSE WHO HAVE DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY WORKED FOR THE COMMUNISTS AND NEUTRALISTS, PARTICULARLY COMMUNIST PARTY MEMBERS AND MEMBERS OF PRO-COMMUNIST POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONS.

2) THOSE SENTENCED FOR CRIMINAL OFFENSES.

3) THOSE SENTENCED FOR LIGHT OFFENSES SUCH AS SWINDLING, BREACH OF TRUST, FORGERY, VIOLATION OF GOOD MORALS, BRIBERY, GRAFT, AND EMBEZZLEMENT.

PAGE 2 RUAESG 978E/3 UNCLAS
4) THOSE SENTENCED TO MORE THAN THREE MONTHS OF IMPRISONMENT FOR OTHER LIGHT OFFENSES, EXCEPT FOR THOSE COMMITTED BY CARELESSNESS AND NEGLIGENCE. HOWEVER, THOSE GUILTY OF FLEEING THE SCENE OF A TRAFFIC ACCIDENT WILL NOT BE AUTHORIZED TO RUN FOR NATIONAL CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY SEATS.

5) THOSE DEPRIVED OF CIVIC RIGHTS OR THE RIGHT TO RUN FOR NATIONAL CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY SEATS BY COURT SENTENCES, ACCORDING TO LAWS NOW IN FORCE.

6) THOSE UNDER LEGAL GUARDIANSHIP OR STRUCK BY MENTAL DISEASES.

7) THOSE HAVING GONE BANKRUPT AND NOT HAVING THEIR RIGHTS RESTORED YET.

8) THOSE NOT COMPLYING WITH REGULATIONS FOR MILITARY SERVICE.

9) CIVIL SERVANTS, MILITARY MEN, GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IN ALL BRANCHES AND OF ALL LEVELS, WHO HAVE FOR REASONS OF DISCIPLINE BEEN SUSPENDED, DISMISSED, OR FORCED TO RESIGN.

UNCLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

THE ABOVE POINTS 2, 3, AND 4 WILL NOT BE APPLIED TO THOSE WHO HAVE HAD THEIR STATUS RESTORED ACCORDING TO PROVISIONS STIPULATED IN DECREE-LAW 4/63 OF DECEMBER 24, 1963 OR WHO HAVE BEEN GRANTED AMNESTY BY DECREE-LAW .....OF JANUARY.....,1964.

THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN SENTENCED FOR CRIMINAL OR LIGHT OFFENCES OF

PAGE 3 RUABSG 973E/3 UNCLAS
POLITICAL CHARACTER OR FOR POLITICAL REASONS BEFORE NOVEMBER 11, 1963, MAY APPEAL, AT LEAST 30 DAYS BEFORE THE ELECTION DAY, FOR THE CONVENING OF A COUNCIL WHICH WILL DECIDE WHETHER THEY ARE AMONG UNDERSERVING ELEMENTS OR NOT.

THIS COUNCIL WILL BE COMPOSED OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE SUPREME COURT OF APPEAL AND TWO ASSISTANT JUDGES OF THE SAME COURT, WILL HAVE TO ISSUE A DECISION WITHIN TWO WEEKS FOLLOWING THE DATE OF THE RECEPTION OF THE APPLICATION.

ART. 11. THE FOLLOWING WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO RUN WITHIN THE TERRITORY UNDER THEIR ADMINISTRATION:

1) MAYORS, DEPUTY MAYORS, CHIEF OF MUNICIPALITY, DEPUTY CHIEFS OF MUNICIPALITY, CHIEF OF PROVINCE, DEPUTY CHIEF OF PROVINCE, SECRETARIES GENERAL OF TOWN AND CITY HALLS OR OF PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES, CHIEF OF DISTRICTS, DEPUTY CHIEF OF DISTRICT AND ASSISTANT CHIEF OF DISTRICT.

2) MAGISTRATES OF COURTS OF FIRST INSTANCE, COUNCILIATION COURTS WITH EXTENDED JURISDICTION, AND COUNCILIATION COURTS.

3) COMMANDING OFFICERS OF NATIONAL POLICE BRANCHES, FROM THE LEVEL OF CHIEF OF POLICE PRECINCT UP.

4) OFFICERS AND NCOS OF THE VIETNAMESE ARMED FORCES WHO ARE

PAGE 4 RUABSG 978E/3 UNCLAS
COMMANDERS OR DEPUTY COMMANDERS OF AN ADMINISTRATIVE OR MILITARY SECTOR, OR WHO ARE COMMANDER OR DEPUTY COMMANDERS OF A VIETNAMESE ARMED FORCES UNIT FROM THE COMPANY LEVEL SHIP (

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

BESIDED, THE ABOVE-MENTIONED PERSONS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO RUN IN A TERRITORY PREVIOUSLY UNDER THEIR ADMINISTRATION. IF THEY HAD NOT LEFT HIS TERRITORY FOR AT LEAST ONE FULL YEAR.

ANY OF THE ABOVE-MENTIONED PERSONS WISHING TO RUN FOR NATIONAL CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY DEPUTY MUST GO ON LEAVE ONE MONTH BEFORE ELECTION DAY.

ART. 12. ANY CITIZEN MAY RUN AS AN INDEPENDENT CANDIDATE IN ANY CONSTITUENCY WHATSOEVER, BUT MAY ONLY RUN IN ONE CONSTITUENCY. CANDIDATES MUST ESTABLISH AN OFFICIAL ADDRESS AT THE ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS OF THEIR CONSTITUENCY AS AN OFFICIAL PLACE OF LIAISON WITH LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

APPLICATION FOR CANDIDATURE WILL BE SUBMITTED TO CITIES, MUNICIPALITY PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION'S OFFICES NOT LATER THAN JULY 10, 1966 WITH THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS ATTACHED:

IN CONSTITUENCIES INCLUDING VIETNAMESE COMPATRIOTS OF MONTAGNARD OR KHMER DESCENT, CANDIDATE'S APPLICATIONS MUST SPECIFY THE CANDIDATE'S INTENTION TO BE THE DEPUTY OF THE VIETNAMESE OR THE MINORITY GROUP.

(MORE)

LODGE

PASSED S/S-O, WHITE HOUSE, USIA, DOD, CIA NSA,
JUNE 8, 11:50 AM

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

INCOMING TELEGRAM Department of State

6

UNCLASSIFIED

Action
FE
Info
SS
G
SP
SAH
L
H
IO
P
NSC
INR
NIC
AID
RSR

VV [illegible]
PP RUFHC
DE RUABSG 9783/4 1531937
ZNR UUUUU
P 032126Z
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5350
INFO ZEN/AMCONSUL DANANG UNN
ZEN/AMCONSUL HUE UNN
STATE GRNC
BT
UNCLAS SECTION FOUR OF NINE JUNE 08

CONTROL: 8722
June 8, 1966, 11:47 p.m.

1) A BIRTH CERTIFICATE OR A DOCUMENT REPLACING IT.

2) A 2 POLICE RECORD NOT OLDER THAN THREE MONTHS.

3) A CERTIFICATE OF RESIDENCE ON VIETNAMESE TERRITORY DELIVERED BY THE MAYOR. CHIEF OF TWON OR CHIEF OF PROVINCE OF THE PRESENT PLACE OF RESIDENCE.

4) A CERTIFICATE THAT THE CANDIDATE HAS BEEN GRANTED VIETNAMESE NATIONALITY OR HAS RETURNED TO VIETNAMESE NATIONALITY.

5) A CERTIFICATE THAT THE CANDIDATE HAS COMPLIED WITH MILITARY DRAFT REGULATIONS, DELIVERED BY THE NATIONAL DEFENSE DEPARTMENT

PAGE 2 RUABSG 9783/4 UNCLAS
OR BY COMPETENT MILITARY SERVICES.

6) SYMBOLS WHICH THE CANDIDATE INTENDS TO USE IN THE CAMPAIGN PLUS TWO 4 M/M BY 6 M/M PHOTORGRAPHS.

7) RECEIPT SHOWING THAT THE CANDIDATES HAS PAID THE FEE FOR ELECTION EXPENSES STIPULATED IN ART. 25.

THE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES MUST IMMEDIATELY PROVIDE THE CANDIDATE WITH A RECEIPT AS PROOF THAT HE HAS MADE APPLICATION TO BECOME A CANDIDATE.

ART. 13. AN ALPHABETICAL LIST OF CANDIDATES' NAMES WILL BE POSTED AT ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES, THE FIRST TIME THREE DAYS AFTER THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF CANDIDATE'S APPLICATION. A RECORD OF THIS POSTING MUST BE KEPT.

UNCLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

ART. 14. WITHIN FIVE DAYS FOLLOWING THE FIRST POSTING OF THE CANDIDATES' LIST, CANDIDATES AND ELECTORS OF THE CONCERNED CONSTITUENCY MAY FILE COMPLAINTS ON CANDIDATE'S QUALITICATIONS AT CITY, TOWN OR PROVINCE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE.

ON THE 6TH DAY, THE L[illegible] OF CANDIDATES AND COMPLAINTS WILL BE SENT TO THE COUNCIL STIPULATED IN ART. 10 FOR EXAMINATION AND DECISION.

ART. 15. IN SAIGON CAPITAL, MUNICIPALITIES, AND PROVINCES,

PAGE 3 RUABSG 978E/4 UNCLAS
A LOCAL COUNCIL WILL BE SET UP, WITH THE FOLLOWING COMPOSITION:

THE CHAIRMAN IS THE PRESIDING JUDGE OF THE COURT OF FIRST INSTANCE, THE LOCAL COUNCILIATION COURT WITH EXTENDED JURISDICTION, OR ONE MAGISTRATE NOMINATED BY THE JUSTICE MINISTRY.

TWO REPRESENTATIVES OF CITY COUNCIL, MUNICIPALITY OR PROVINCIAL COUNCIL, NOT RUNNING FOR THE NATIONAL CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY, NOMINATED BY DRAWING OF LOTS, WILL SERVE AS MEMBERS.

TWO VOTERS REPRESENTATIVES DRAWN FROM A LIST OF 20 NOTABLES AND PERSONALITIES, NOT RUNNING FOR THE NATIONAL CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY, HALF OF WHOM ARE CHOSEN BY LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND THE OTHER HALF CHOSEN BY THE ELECTED PROVINCIAL OR CITY COUNCILS.

ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF CITY, TOWN OR PROVINCE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE (NOT ALLOWED TO VOTE) WILL SERVE AS SECRETARY.

IN PROVINCES INCLUDING CANDIDATES OF MONTAGNARD OR KHMER DESCENT, ONE OUT OF TWO REPRESENTATIVES OF COUNCILS AND ONE OUT OF TWO REPRESENTATIVES OF ELECTORS, WILL BE RESERVED FOR MONTAGNARD OR KHMER COMPATRIOTS, IN SUCH A CASE, DIFFERENT DRAWINGS OF LOTS

WILL BE PERFORMED FOR THE SELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES OF LOWLANDS AND MONTAGNARD COMPATRIOTS. AS FOR THE ELECTORS' REPRESENTATIVE, TEN NOTABLES AND PERSONALITIES WILL BE PRESENTED, INSTEAD OF 20.

PAGE 4 RUABSG 978E/4 UNCLAS
ART. 16. THE COUNCIL STIPULATED IN ART. 15 WILL HAVE THE MISSION OF STUDYING FILES OF CANDIDATES IN ORDER TO DECIDE WITHIN THREE DAYS WHETHER TO INSCRIBE OR TO STRIKE CANDIDATES' NAMES FROM THE LIST.

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

THE COUNCIL WILL CONVENE A MEETING OF ALL CANDIDATES IN ORDER TO OFFICIALLY ANNOUNCE THE INSCRIPTION OR THE REFUSAL TO INSCRIBE CANDIDATES' NAMES ON THE CANDIDATES LIST.

THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE LOCAL ADMINISTRATION, WORKING AS THE COUNCIL'S SECRETARY, WILL ALSO BE INFORMED, AS ABOVE-MENTIONED, SO THAT HE MAY REPORT TO HIS SUPERIORS.

WITHIN THREE DAYS FOLLOWING THE ANNOUNCEMENT, THE LOCAL ADMINISTRATION AND CANDIDATES MAY SEND TO THE COUNCIL COMPLAINTS ON THE INSCRIPTION OR REMOVAL OF CANDIDATES' NAMES FROM THE CANDIDATES' LIST. ELECTORS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO FILE COMPLAINTS IN THIS STAGE.

ON THE 4TH DAY, THE COUNCIL WILL TRANSMIT TO THE CENTRAL COUNCIL THE LIST OF APPROVED CANDIDATES AS WELL AS FILES OF CANDIDATES SUBJECTED TO COMPLAINTS AND THE COMPLAINTS RECEIVED.

IN CASE THERE ARE NO COMPLAINTS, THE LOCAL COUNCIL WILL KEEP THE LIST OF CANDIDATES WHICH IT HAD APPROVED FOR SECOND POSTING ON THE DAY FIXED.

(MORE)

LODGE

BT

NOTE: Advance copy to S/S-O at 12:25 a.m., June 9, 1966

NOTE: Passed White House, DOD, CIA, USIA, NSA, at 12:25 a.m., June 9, 1966

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED 14 VIET

INCOMING TELEGRAM *Department of State*

6

Action

FE

Info

SS
G
SP
SAH
L
H
IO
P
NSC
INR
NIC
AID

RSR

UNCLASSIFIED

68792

1966 JUN 9 AM 2 4

VV EUB412PEB210
PP RUEHC
DE RUABSG 978E/5 1591237
ZNR UUUUU
P 081200Z ZFG
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY/5380
INFO ZEN/AMCONSUL DANANG UNN
ZEN/AMCONSUL HUE UNN
STATE GRNC
BT
UNCLAS SECTION FIVE OF NINE/JUNE 08

ART. 17. A CENTRAL COUNCIL WILL BE SET UP IN SAIGON TO BE COMPOSED OF:

THE PRESIDING JUDGE OF THE SUPREME COURT OF APPEAL SERVING AS CHAIRMAN.

TWO ASSISTANT JUDGES OF THE SAIGON COURT OF APPEAL NOMINATED BY THIS COURT'S PRESIDING JUDGE SERVING AS MEMBERS.

TWO LAWYERS NOMINATED BY THE SAIGON LAWYERS CORPS SERVING AS MEMBERS.

FOUR REPRESENTATIVES OF FOUR RELIGIONS (BUDDHISM, CATHOLICISM,

PAGE 2 RUABSG 978E/5 UNCLAS
CAO DAI AND HOA HAO) SERVING AS MEMBERS.

ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE INTERIOR DEPARTMENT SERVING AS MEMBER.

FIVE REPRESENTATIVES OF CITY, MUNICIPALITY, AND PROVINCE COUNCILS, NOT RUNNING FOR THE NATIONAL CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY, (ONE FOR EACH OF THE FOUR TACTICAL ZONES AND ONE FOR CAPITAL SPECIAL ZONE) DRAWN BY LOTS, WILL SERVE AS MEMBERS.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL HAS THE MISSION OF STUDYING COMPLAINTS ABOUT CANDIDATES WITHIN THE PERIOD OF 10 DAYS AND WILL IMMEDIATELY RETURN TO CONCERNED ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICIALS THE LIST OF CANDIDATES IT HAS APPROVED.

LISTS OF CANDIDATES OF ALL CONSTITUENCIES WILL BE POSTED A SECOND TIME ON AUGUST 10,1966 AT ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES. A REPORT SHOULD BE MADE ON THIS SECOND POSTING.

UNCLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

CHAPTER IV

ELECTION CAMPAIGN

ART. 18. THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN WILL BE ORGANIZED ON A COMPLETELY EQUAL BASIS BETWEEN ALL CANDIDATES WITH MEANS DECIDED AND PROVIDED BY THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE.

ART. 19. AN ELECTION CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE WILL BE SET UP CONSISTING OF CANDIDATES OR THEIR REPRESENTATIVES.

PAGE 3 RUWBSG 978E/5 - UNCLAS

EACH CANDIDATE MAY CHOOSE A REPRESENTATIVE TO SERVE ON THE ELECTION COMMITTEE, AND EACH CANDIDATE MAY CHANGE HIS REPESENTATIVE AT ANY TIME THROUGHOUT THE CAMPAIGN.

ONE DAY AT THE LATEST AFTER THE SECOND POSTING OF CANDIDATES LISTS, IF NECESSARY, CANDIDATES WILL INFORM LOCAL AUTHORITIES ABOUT THE NAME OF THEIR REPRESENTATIVE.

THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE WILL ELECT A CHIEF FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF THE COMMITTEE'S AFFAIRS AND FOR LIAISON WITH THE LOCAL ADMINISTRATION.

ART. 20. THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE'S FIRST MEETING WILL BE CONVENED BY LOCAL AUTHORITIES 30 DAYS AT THE LATEST BEFORE THE ELECTION DAY.

ART. 21. THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE WILL BE CHARGED WITH THE FOLLOWING TASKS:

1) TO FIX THE NUMBER, THE SIZE, THE COLOR OF POSTERS AND LEAFLETS. EVERY CANDIDATE WILL HAVE AT THE MAXIMUM TWO KINDS OF POSTERS NOT LARGER THAN 65M BY 100M AND TWO KINDS OF LEAFLETS NOT LARGER THAN 20M BY 25M.
2) TO PRINT AND TRANSPORT POSTERS AND TO FIX THE DATE OF POSTING AND PLACES ON WHICH POSTERS WILL BE STUCK. LEAFLETS MAY

PAGE 4 RUABSG 978E/5 UNCLAS
BE HANDED TO ELECTORS.

DECLASSIFIED

3) TO ORGANIZE CANDIDATES' TALKS WITH ELECTORS.

4) TO FIX MODES OF USE OF RADIO-CARS, RADIO STATIONS OR TELEVISION STATIONS, IF THERE ARE ANY.

5) TO FIX THE FORM OF PRESS CONFERENCES OR OF THE USE OF THE PRESS IN THE CAMPAIGN.

ART. 22. RESOLUTIONS OF THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE WILL BE EFFECTIVE IF APPROVED BY MORE THAN HALF OF ITS MEMBERSHIP. IN CASE OF A TIE VOTE, THE CHIEF'S VOTE WILL BE DECISIVE.

ART. 23. IF THERE ARE DIFFERENCES OF OPINION WITH THE COMMITTEE OR COMPLAINTS FROM THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS, THE LOCAL COUNCIL WHICH EXAMINES CANDIDATES' LISTS WILL SOLVE THE PROBLEM AND ITS DECISION WILL BE FINAL.

ART. 24. NOBODY IS ALLOWED TO MAKE USE OF CAMPAIGN MEANS OUTSIDE THE NUMBER AND MODES FIXED BY THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE IN ART. 21.

THE VIETNAMESE LANGUAGE WILL BE USED THROUGHOUT THE CAMPAIGN. HOWEVER, IN PROVINCES INCLUDING MONTAGNARD CANDIDATES, BESIDES VIETNAMESE LANGUAGE-WRITTEN DOCUMENTS, MONTAGNARD CANDIATES

MAY SUMMARIZE THEIR STATEMENTS IN DOCUMENTS WRITTEN IN A WIDELY-USED DIALECT.

THIS ARTICLE ALSO APPLIES IN ALL PUBLIC MEETINGS OF THE CANDIDATES WITH THE VOTERS, IF NECESSARY THROUGH THE ASSISTANCE OF AN INTERPRETER PROVIDED BY THE CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE.

(MORE)

LODGE

BT

NOTE: ADVANCE COPY TO S/S-O AT 3:00 A.M., 6/9/66
PASSED WHITE HOUSE, DOD, CIA, USIA, NSA AT 3:00 A.M. 6/9/66

INCOMING TELEGRAM Department of State

6

UNCLASSIFIED

Action
FE

Info
SS
G
SP
SAH
L
H
IO
P
NSC
INR
NIC
AID
RSR

VV. EUA226PER989
PP RUEHC
DE RUABSG 978E/6 1591250
ZNR UUUUU
P 081200Z
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5380
INFO ZEN/AMCONSUL DANANG UNN
ZEN/AMCONSUL HUE UNN
STATE GPNC
AT
UNCLAS SECTION SIX OF NINE JUNE 08

08003
1966 JUN 8 AM 10 24

ART. 25. EXPENDITURES ON ORGANIZATION OF ELECTIONS INCLUDING CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURES WILL BE BORNE BY THE NATIONAL BUDGET. THE MAXIMUM IS VN$2 FOR EACH ELECTOR TIEMS THE OF CANDIDATES IN A CONSTITUENCY. IF THERE ARE MORE THAN FOUR CANDIDATES IN A CONSTITUENCY, THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF EXPENDITURES STILL MAY NOT EXCEED VN$8 FOR EACH ELECTOR IN THE CONSTITUENCY.

IN CASE THAT ALL CANDIDATES UNANIMOUSLY DEEM IT NECESSARY TO PROVIDE A BIGGER FUND FOR CAMPAIGNING, THE NATIONAL BUDGET WILL ALSO BEAR EXPENDITURES TO THE ABOVE-MENTIONED

PAGE 02 RUABSG 978E/6 UNCLAS
LIMIT AND THE EXCESS WILL BE BORNE BY ALL CANDIDATES.

ART. 26. TO RUN FOR THE NATIONAL CONSTUTUENT ASSEMBLY EVERY CANDIDATE MUST DEPOSIT VN$10,000 IN THE TREASURY FOR CAMPAIGN EXPENDITUES.

IN CASE THE CANDIDATE WITHDRAWS AFTER POSTERS AND LEAFLETS HAVE BEEN PRINTED, OR DOES NOT GET MORE THAN 5 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF VALID VOTES OF HIS CONSTITUENCY, THA VN$10,000 DEPOCIT WILL NOT BE RETURNED TO THIS CANDIDATE.

BESIDES, THIS CANDIDATE MUST PAY TO THE NATIONAL BUDGET THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE VN$10,000 DEPOSIT AND EXPENDITURES IN PRINTING OF CAMPAIGN DOCUMENTS RELATED TO THAT CANDIDATE IF THOSE EXPENDITUES AMOUNT TO MORE THAN VN$10,000.

ART. 27. THE CMPAIGN WILL BEGIN AT THE EARLIEST 16 DAYS BEFORE ELECTION DAY AND WILL END ON SEPTEMBER 10, 1966 AT 12:00 NOON.

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 RUARSG 978E/6 UNCLAS

CHAPTER V

MANNER OF VOTING

ART. 28. THE DEPUTIES OF THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY ARE ELECTED BY UNIVERSAL SUFFRAGE, BY DIRECT AND SECRET BALLOT, BY INDIVIDUAL CANDIDACIES ON A SINGLE BALLOTING, AND BY RELATIVE MAJORITY.

IN EACH CONSTITUENCY ONE OR MORE DEPUTIES WILL BE ELECTED.

ART. 29. THE AUTHORITIES IN THE ELECTORAL DISTRICT WILL BE IN CHARGE OF THE PRINTING OF BALLOTS.

EACH BALLOT HAS THE FORM OF A RECTANGLE, 15CM IN LENGTH, 10CM IN WIDTH, IN CONFORMITY WITH THE MODEL ENCLOSED HEREWITH (COPY NUMBER 2). ON EACH BALLOT THERE WILL APPEAR ONLY THE NAME AND SURNAME OF THE CANDIDATE (THE PRINTING OF THE LETTERS CANNOT EXCEED ONE CM IN HEIGHT), A SYMBOL ON THE UPPER RIGHT HAND CORNER, AND THE PHOTO OF THE CANDIDATE NO LARGER THAN 5 CM SQUARE AT THE UPPER LEFT HAND CORNER. THE BALLOTS OF ALL CANDIDATES IN THE SAME CONSTITUENCY ARE PRINTED ON A SINGLE PIECE OF PAPER PRINTED IN ONE COLOR ON WHITE PAPER AND PERFORATED SO THAT IT CONSTITUTES A ROW OF BALLOTS EASY TO TEAR OUT. THESE BALLOTS ARE ARRANGED ALPHABETICALLY AFTER THE CANDIDATES' NAMES.

THE CANDIDATES ARE FREE TO CHOOSE THEIR PERSONAL SYMBOLS, BUT QUEER, INTERNATIONAL AND RELIGIOUS SYMBOLS ARE FORBIDDEN. SYMBOLS OF POLITICAL GROUPS CAN BE USED EXCEPT IN CASES WHERE

PAGE 04 RUARSG 978E/6 UNCLAS

THEY ARE CONTESTED BY THE CENTRAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ORGANIZATIONS.

CANDIDATES ARE NOT ALLOWED TO USE SYMBOLS SIMILAR TO THOSE OF OTHER CANDIDATES IN THE SAME CONSTITUENCY.

THE BALLOTS MUST BE BOUND IN PADS, EACH ONE TO HAVE AT LEAST FIFTY NUMBERED LEAVES, AND ONE HUNDRED LEAVES IS THE MAXIMUM.

DECLASSIFIED

ART. 30. THE LOCATION OF POLLING STATIONS WILL BE DECIDED BY THE MAYORS AND CHIEFS OF PROVINCE AND ANNOUNCED PUBLICLY ONE WEEK BEFORE THE ELECTION DAY AT THE LATEST.

A COMMITTEE COMPOSED OF A CHAIRMAN, DEPUTY CHAIRMAN AND AT LEAST TWO MEMBERS, IS IN CHARGE OF EACH POLLING STATION. THE CHAIRMAN AND DEPUTY CHAIRMAN WILL BE APPOINTED BY THE MAYORS AND CHIEFS OF PROVINCE AND WILL BE CHOSEN FROM THOSE WHO ARE KNOWN FOR THEIR SERIOUSNESS AND COMPETENCE IN ELECTORAL LAWS. THE MEMBERS ARE CHOSEN BY THE CHAIRMAN FROM THE VOTERS PRESENT AT THE POLLING STATION ON ELECTION DAY.

EACH CANDIDATE HAS THE RIGHT TO DESIGNATE AN OBSERVER IN THE POLLING STATION. THE LATTER MUST POSSESS A A CERTIFICATE DELIVERED BY THE CANDIDATE AND

DULY CERTIFIED BY THE AUTHORITIES.

THE CHAIRMAN IS ENTRUSTED WITH THE TASK OF SUPERVISING THE VOTING SO THAT IT WILL PROCEED IN CONFORMITY WITH THE ELECTORAL LAWS. HE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR KEEPING ORDER AT THE POLLING STATION.

(MORE)

LODGE

PASSED S/S-O, WHITE HOUSE, USIA, DOD , CIA, NSA, JUNE 8

1:05 PM

DECLASSIFIED 24 VIET-S

INCOMING TELEGRAM Department of State

6

UNCLASSIFIED

08051

1966 JUN 8 AM 10 56

Action
FE
Info
SS
G
SP
SAH
L
H
IO
P
NSC
INR
NIC
AID
RSR

PP RUEHC
DE RUABSG 978E/7 1591310
ZNP UUUUU
P 081200Z
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5380
INFO ZEN/AMCONSUL DANANG UNN
ZEN/AMCONSUL HUE UNN
STATE GRNC
BT
UNCLAS SECTION SEVEN OF NINE JUNE 08

THE CHAIRMAN IS OBLIGED TO MAKE A REPORT IMMEDIATELY IF ANY FRAUD OR TRICK IS OBSERVED OR BECAUSE OF COMPLAINTS MADE BY THE CANDIDATES' REPRESENTATIVES.

ART. 31. THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE POLLING STATION IS PUBLIC. THE VOTING BEGINS AT 0700 AND ENDS AT 1700 THE SAME DAY.

ART. 32. WHEN THE VOTING BEGINS, AND IN THE PRESENCE OF HIS SUBORDINATES AND THE OBSERVERS WHO REPRESENT THE CANDIDATES, THE COMMITTEE HEAD OPENS THE BALLOT BOX AND SHOWS IT TO THE PUBLIC SO THAT THE LATTER CAN SEE THAT THE BALLOT BOX IS EMPTY AND IT HAS ONLY A SLOT WHICH ENABLES THE BALLOT ENVELOPE TO PASS THROUGH.

PAGE 02 RUABSG 978E/7 UNCLAS

THEN THE BALLOT BOX IS CLOSED BY TWO DIFFERENT LOCKS WHOSE KEYS ARE KEPT ONE BY THE COMMITTEE HEAD AND THE OTHER BY THE DEPUTY COMMITTEE HEAD.

DURING THE WHOLE TIME OF VOTING, IT IS STRICTLY FORBIDDEN TO OPEN THE BALLOT BOX.

ART. 33. THE VOTERS MUST GO IN PERSON TO VOTE AT THE POLLING STATIONS. THEY ARE NOT ALLOWED TO SEND THEIR VOTING PAPERS BY MAIL OR ACCREDIT OTHER PERSONS TO VOTE FOR THEM.

WHEN ENTERING THE POLLING STATION, THE VOTER IS FORBIDDEN TO CARRY WEAPONS. HE MUST SHOW HIS VOTING CARD TOGETHER WITH HIS IDENTITY CARD BEFORE RECEIVING AN ENVELOPE AND THE BALLOTS. RIGHT AFTER THAT, A MEMBER OF THE COMMITTEE REGISTERS HIS NAME AND THE NUMBER OF HIS IDENTITY CARD IN A NOTEBOOK.

UNCLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

THE VOTER MUST GO ALONE INTO A COVERED BOOTH. HE WILL TEAR OUT THE BALLOTS AND PICK OUT THE ONE WHICH BEARS THE NAME OF THE CANDIDATE OF HIS CHOICE AND PUT IT IN THE ENVELOPE. THE REMAINING VOTING-PAPERS MUST BE TORN APART AND DROPPED IN A CONTAINER PLACED AT THE ENTRANCE OF THE POLLING BOOTH. A MEMBER OF THE VOTING COMMITTEE WILL STAMP THE VOTERS'S VOTING CARD AND CUT OFF ONE CORNER.

PAGE 03 RUABSG 978E/7 UNCLAS

PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED VOTERS MAY BE ALLOWED B THE COMMITTEE HEAD TO ASK OTHER VOTERS TO HELP THEM. THE COMMITTEE HEAD HAS FULL AUTHORITY TO DECIDE ON THESE CASES.

AFTER THEY HAVE VOTED, THE VOTERS HAVE THEIR VOTING CARDS CUT AT A CORNER AND STAMPED.

ART. 34. IN MILITARY POSTS WHERE THERE IS ONE BATTALION OR MORE SPECIAL POLLING STATIONS CAN BE SET UP FOR MILITARY MEN AND THEIR FAMILIES, BUT THE PROCEDURES OF VOTING MUST BE THE SAME AS THOSE EMPLOYED AT OTHER POLLING STATIONS.

ART. 35. IN POLLING STATIONS WHERE THERE ARE CANDIDATES OF ETHNIC MINORITIES, EVEN IF THEY HAVE RESERVED SEATS IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, THE VOTING PROCEDURE IS THE SAME FOR ALL CITIZENS.

ART. 35. THE LOCAL COUNCIL WHICH EXAMINES AND CONFIRMS THE LISTS OF VOTERS DESCRIBED IN ARTICLE 15 HAS ALSO THE RESPONSIBILITY OF CONTROLLING THE VOTING AT THE POLLING STATIONS ON THE ELECTION DAY.

THAT COUNCIL CAN MAKE A REPORT CONCERNING FRAUDS OR IRREGULARITIES IN THEIR POLLING STATIONS. THE REPORT WILL BE SENT TO THE AUTHORITIES FOR DECISION.

THE LOCAL ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITIES WILL PROVIDE THE NECESSARY MEANS FOR THE COUNCIL'S ACTIVITIES, PARTICULARLY TRANSPORTATION.

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 RUABSG 978E/7 UNCLAS

CHAPTER VI

COUNTING OF BALLOTS AND ANNOUNCING RESULTS

ART. 37. THE COUNTING OF BALLOTS MUST BE CARRIED OUT PUBLICLY AT THE POLLING STATION IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE END OF THE VOTING.

IF BY ACCIDENT A KEY IS MISSING, THE BALLOT BOX MUST BE OPENED BY ANY MEANS AND THE FACT NOTED DOWN IN THE REPORT.

ART. 38. BEFORE PROCEEDING TO THE COUNTING OF THE BALLOTS, THE COMMITTEE HEAD HAS TO TOTAL THE NUMBER OF VOTERS INSCRIBED IN THE RECORD DESCRIBED IN ARTICLE 33 AND ALSO CHECK THE TOTAL OF BALLOTS DISTRIBUTED IN ORDER TO RECONCILE IT WITH THE NUMBER OF VOTERS WHO HAVE VOTED. THEN HE PUBLICLY ANNOUNCES THE NUMBER TO THE VOTERS PRESENT AND NOTES IT IN THE COMMITTEE REPORT. THE COMMITTEE IN CHARGE OF THE POLLING STATION WILL APPOINT FROM AMONG THE VOTERS PRESENT WHO CAN READ AND WRITE A NUMBER WHO WILL COUNT THE BALLOTS. THEY WILL BE DIVIDED INTO GROUPS OF FOUR PERSONS.

(MORE)

LODGE

ADVANCE COPY TO S/S-O, WHITE HOUSE, DOD, CIA, USIA, NSA 12:50PM

DECLASSIFIED

INCOMING TELEGRAM *Department of State* Pol 14 VIET-S

6

Action
FE

Info
SS
G
SP
SAH
L
H
IO
P
NSC
INR
NIC
AID
RSR

UNCLASSIFIED

VV EUB310PEA943
PP RUEHC
DE RUABSG 978E/8 1591327
ZNR UUUUU
P 081200Z
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5380
INFO ZEN/AMCONSUL DANANG UNN
ZEN/AMCONSUL HUE UNN
STATE GRNC
BT
UNCLAS SECTION EIGHT OF NINE JUNE 08

0 8052 JUN 8 AM 10 53

EACH CANDIDATE CAN APPOINT A NUMBER OF COUNTERS WHO WILL JOIN THE ABOVE GROUPS. BEFORE THE OPENING OF THE BALLOT BOX, THE CANDIDATE MUST GIVE THE NAMES OF THE COUNTERS CHOSEN BY HIM SO THAT THE COMMITTEE HEAD CAN MAKE A LIST OF COUNTERS.

THE COMMITTEE HEAD OPENS THE BALLOT BOX AND PROCEEDS TO THE COUNTING OF THE ENVELOPES. IF THE NUMBER OF ENVELOPES EXCEEDS THE NUMBER OF VOTERS WHO HAVE VOTED, IT MUST BE NOTED IN THE REPORT. THE NUMBER OF VOTERS WHO HAVE VOTED IS THE NUMBER OF VOTERS WHO HAVE BEEN MARKED IN THE NOTEBOOK

PAGE 2 RUABSG 978E/8 UNCLAS
DESCRIBED IM ARTICLE 33.

THE COMMITTEE HEAD GIVES TO EACH GROUP OF COUNTERS A NUMBER OF ENVELOPES. IN EACH GROUP, THE FIRST COUNTER OPENS THE ENVELOPE AND HANDS OVER THE VOTING PAPER TO THE SECOND COUNTER WHO READS ALOUD THE CANDIATE'S NAME AND SURNAME. THEN THE VOTING PAPER IS HANDED OVER TO THE TWO OTHER COUNTERS WHO SEPARATELY CHECK IT AND WRITE DOWN IN INK THE CANDIDATE'S NAME ON A TALLY SHEET.

WHEN COUNTING, THE FIRST AND SECOND COUNTERS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO HOLD ANYTHING IN THEIR HANDS WHICH MIGHT MAKE THE VOTING PAPERS IRREGULAR.

ART. 39. THE FOLLOWING IRREGULARITIES WILL CAUSE BALLOTS TO BE CONSIDERED VOID AND WORTHLESS:

A) ENVELOPES WHICH CONTAIN NOTHING.

UNCLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

B) ENVELOPES WHICH CONTAIN SOMETHING OTHER THAN THE BALLOTS.

C) BALLOTS WHICH ARE NOT INSIDE ENVELOPES.

D) BALLOTS FROM WHICH THE CANDIDATE'S NAME HAS BEEN TORN OUT.

E) BALLOTS IN THE ENVELOPE EXCEED THE NUMBER OF CANDIDATES IN THE CONSTITUENCY. HOWEVER, IF THERE BE MORE THAN ONE BALLOT BEARING THE SAME NAME IN THE ENVELOPE, THE VOTE WILL BE CONSIDERED VALID AND COUNT AS ONE VOTE.

PAGE 3 RUABSG 978E/8 UNCLAS

G) ENVELOPES AND BALLOTS ON WHICH WORDS OR SIGNS ARE ADDED.

THE COMMITTEE HEAD AND ONE MEMBER OF THE COMMITTEE MUST SIGN ON THE IRREGULAR ENVELOPE OR BALLOT WHICH WILL THEN BE ENCLOSED WITH THE COMMITTEE REPORT STATING THE CAUSE OF THE IRREGULARITY.

IF THE IRREGULAR ENVELOPES AND BALLOTS ARE NOT ENCLOSED WITH THE REPORT, THE ELECTION WILL BE ANNULLED ONLY IN THE CASE THAT THE IRREGULAR BALLOTS COULD MODIFY THE RESULTS OF THE ELECTION.

ART. 40. IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE COUNTING OF VOTES, THE COMMITTEE IN CHARGE OF THE POLLS WILL CONFIRM THE RESULTS OF THE BALLOTING AND PUT ITS SIGNATURE ON A REPORT IN FOUR COPIES.

THE CHIEF OF THE COMMITTEE WILL POST ONE COPY IN HIS OFFICE, KEEP FOR HIMSELF ANOTHER COPY AND SEND THE TWO REMAINING COPIES TOGETHER WITH THE FILES TO THE PRINCIPAL POLLING STATION FOR SUMMING UP OF ELECTION RESULTS IN EACH CONSTITUENCY.

FILES OF EACH POLLING STATION ARE COMPOSED OF TWO PARTS, SEALED SEPARATELY:

PART A - REPORT ON ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMITTEE IN CHARGE OF POLLING STATION.

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

-TALLY AND CONTROL SHEETS.

-IRREGULAR ENVELOPES AND BALLOTS.

-ENVELOPES AND BALLOTS SUBJECT TO COMPLAINTS, IF ANY.

PAGE 4 RUABSG 978E/8 UNCLAS

PART B - BALLOTS NOT DISTRIBUTED.

- LIST OF ELIGIBLE VOTERS.

- LIST OF VOTERS WHO HAVE CAST THEIR BALLOTS.

ART. 41. IF THERE ARE MANY SIGNS INDICATING THAT THERE MAY BE SERIOUS DISTURBANCES OR SABOTAGE DURING THE COUNTING OF VOTES, THE MAYOR OF SAIGON, CHIEFS OF MUNICIPALITY, CHIEFS OF PROVINCE, OR CHIEFS OF DISORICT MAY ALLOW THE COMMITTEE IN CHARGE OF THE POLLING STATION TO BRING BALLOT BOXES TO A MORE SECURE PLACE TO COUNT THE BALLOTS.

IN SUCH A CASE, THE FOLLOWING MEASURES SHOULD BE STRICLTY APPLIED:

A) VOTERS AND CANDIDATES MUST BE INFORMED.

B) BEFORE MOVING THE BALLOT BOXES, THE CHIEF OF THE COMMITTEE MUST SEAL ALL BALLOT BOXES, SLOTS IN BALLOT BOXES, AND THE TWO LOCKS AS WELL AS DOCUMENTS RELATING TO PART B OF FILES STIPULATED IN ART. 40.

C) FROM THE START OF THE MOVE UNTIL THE COUNTING OF VOTES, REPRESENTATIVES OF CANDIDATES AND ALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS MUST BE PRESENT.

THIS FACT MUST BE ENTERED IN THE REPORT.

ART. 42. THERE WILL BE A PRINCIPAL POLLING STATION FOR EACH CONSTITUENCY.

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

PAGE 5 RUABSG 978E/8 UNCLAS
THE COMMITTEE IN CHARGE OF THIS PRINCIPAL POLLING STATION WILL INCLUDE ONE COMMITTEE CHIEF AND AN EVEN NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS, AT LEAST FOUR. THE COMMITTEE CHIEF AND THE MEMBERS WILL BE NOMINATED ACCORDING TO THE METHODS STIPULATED IN ART. 30.

CANDIDATES OR THEIR REPRESENTATIVES ARE ALLOWED TO WATCH THE PERSONNEL OF THIS COMMITTEE AT WORK.

THE COMMITTEE IN CHARGE OF THE PRINCIPAL POLLING STATION HAS THE DUTY OF SUMMING UP THE RESULTS OF COUNTING OF VOTE, OF ESTABLISHING A REPORT IN THREE COPIES FOR THE CONSTITUENCY, OF POSTING PRELIMINARY RESULTS FOR THE CONSTITUENCY AND OF SENDING ALL DOCUMENTS RELATED TO THE ELECTION TO THE LOCAL COUNCIL STIPULATED IN ARTICLE 15.

CANDIDATES WHO OBTAIN THE GREATEST NUMBER OF VOTES WILL BE DECLARED ELECTED.
(MORE)
LODGE
BT

NOTE: PASSED S/S-O, WHITE HOUSE, DOD, CIA, USIA, NSA AT 1:19 PM, 6/8/66.

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED PDL 14 VIETS

INCOMING TELEGRAM *Department of State*

6 UNCLASSIFIED

Action NNNNVV EUA233PEB993
PP RUEHC
FM DE RUARSG 978E/9 1591400
ZNR UUUUU
Info P 081200Z
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
SS TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5380
G INFO ZEN/AMCONSUL DANANG UNN
SP ZEN/AMCONSUL HUE UNN
SAH STATE GRNC
L BT
H UNCLAS SECTION NINE OF NINE JUNE 08
IO
P IN CONSTITUENCIES WHERE ASSEMBLY SEATS ARE RESERVED FOR ETHNIC
NSC MINORITIES, COMPARISON OF VOTES WILL BE MADE SEPARATELY
INR BETWEEN VIETNAMESE CANDIDATES AND BETWEEN CANDIDATES OF ETHNIC
NIC MINORITIES.
AID
ART. 43. VOTERS AND CANDIDATES IN EACH CONSTITUENCY HAVE THE
RSR RIGHT TO FILE COMPLAINTS ABOUT VIOLATIONS OF ELECTION REGULATIONS
IN THEIR CONSTITUENCY.

COMPLAINTS MADE ON GOOD GROUNDS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE OFFICE OF THE LOCAL COUNCIL STIPULATED IN ART. 15, AT THE LATEST TWO DAYS AFTER ELECTION DAY.

PAGE 2 RUARSG 978E/9 UNCLAS

BESIDES COMPLAINTS RELATED TO THE CASTING OF VOTES, CANDIDATES AS WELL AS VOTERS SHOULD STRICTLY APPLY IN-FORCE REGULATIONS WHEN SUBMITTING TO COMPETENT COURTS AND BE AWARE OF WHAT IS IN CONFORMITY WITH REGULATIONS AS WELL AS WHAT CONSTITUTES VIOLATIONS OF THE ELECTION LAW BY THE CANDIDATES.

ART. 44. THE LOCAL COUNCIL STIPULATED IN ART. 15 WILL CHECK THE RESULTS OF THE CASTING OF VOTES, EXAMINE IRREGULAR VOTES OR CONTESTED VOTES, AND ANNOUNCE THE OFFICIAL RESULT, AT THE LATEST FOUR DAYS AFTER ELECTION DAY, AND TRANSMIT REPORTS AS WELL AS NECESSARY DOCUMENTS TO THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR THROUGH THE SAIGON MAYOR, CHIEFS OF MUNICIPALITY OR CHIEFS OF PROVINCE.

CHAPTER VII

VIOLATIONS OF ELECTION LAW

ART. 45. VIOLATIONS TO THE FREEDOM AND SINCERE CHARACTER OF

UNCLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

NATIONAL CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS WILL BE PUNISHED ACCORDING TO DECREE-LAW 13/64 OF JULY , 1964.

ART. 46. COMPLAINTS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO THE COURT OF FIRST INSTANCE OR THE CONCILIATION COURT WITH EXTENDED JURISDICTION, AT THE LATEST THREE DAYS AFTER THE PUBLICATION OF THE OFFICIAL RESULTS OF ELECTIONS IN A CONSTITUENCY.

PAGE 3 RUABSG 978E/9 UNCLAS

THE CONCERNED COURT MAY ONLY MAKE A JUDGEMENT AND ANNOUNCE ITS VERDICT AT THE EARLIEST ONE DAY AND AT THE LATEST TEN DAYS AFTER THE PUBLICATION OF THE OFFICIAL RESULTS OF THE ELECTIONS.

ART. 47. ALL APPEALS MUST FOLLOW METHODS OF LAW AND REGULATIONS IN FORCE.

ALL JUDGEMENTS MUST BE COMPLETED WITHIN THE SHORTEST POSSIBLE TIME.

ALL DOCUMENTS AND JUDGEMENTS RELATED TO ELECTIONS WILL BE EXEMPTED FROM STAMP AND REGISTRATION FEES.

ART. 48. DEFAMATIONS, PUBLIC INSULTS, THREATS OR VIOLANCES DURING THE ELECTION WILL BE JUDGED IN CONFORMITY WITH THE PROCEDURES STIPULATED IN ARTICLES 46 AND 47.

ART. 49. ANY CANDIDATE, EVEN THOUGH A WINNER IN ELECTIONS, WHO HAS BEEN SENTENCED BY THE COURT ACCORDING TO DECREE-LAW 13/64 OF JULY 8, 1964 AND OTHER IN-FORCE LAWS, WILL HAVE HIS VICTORY IN ELECTIONS ANNULLED. THE NATIONAL CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY WILL ONLY ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THE ELECTION IS INVALID AND WILL NOT DISCUSS IT.

A WINNING CANDIATE WHO HAS BEEN SENTENCED AS ABOVE MAY, PENDING THE APPLICATION OF THE SENTENCE, PARTICIPATE IN THE WORK OF THE NATIONAL CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY.

ART. 50. THE SECRETARY OF JUSTICE, THE SECRETARY OF INTERIOR AND

PAGE 5 RUABSG 978E/9 UNCLAS

THE SECRETARY OF INFORMATION AND OPEN ARMS WILL CARRY OUT THIS DECREE-LAW ACCORDING TO THEIR AUTHORITY.

THIS DECREE-LAW WILL BE PROMULGATED ACCORDING TO URGENT PROCEDURES.
(END ALL)
LODGE
PT

NOTE: PASSED S/S-O, WHITE HOUSE, DOD, CIA, USIA, NSA 6/8/66 11:40AM.

DECLASSIFIED

INCOMING TELEGRAM Department of State

41 Action

88 Info

SECRET

X VV MJA407JIA875
OO R EHC
DE R 1156A 1601115
ZNY SSSSS
O 09 Z
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5406
STATE GRNC
BT
S E C R E T JUNE 09

E X D I S

1. I GAVE KY A SUMMARY OF MY CONVERSATION WITH TAM CHAU IN THE MORNING, MENTIONING THAT I HAD STRESSED TWO THINGS, THAT TAM CHAU TALK WITH KY, AND THAT I WOULD ENCOURAGE KY TO HOLD FAIR ELECTIONS.

2. KY SAID THAT HE HAD ALREADY HAD A REQUEST FROM TAM CHAU FOR A CONVERSATION, AND HE HOPED TO HAVE MANY CONVERSATIONS WITH HIM.

3. UPON MY TELLING HIM THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT THINKS THESE ELECTIONS ARE OF THE GREATEST IMPORTANCE, AND THAT IT WOULD BE

PAGE 2 RUMJIR 1156A S E C R E T
DANGEROUS NOT TO HOLD THEM, HE SAID THAT HE HAD THE FIRM INTENTION TO GO AHEAD WITH THE ELECTIONS, THAT HE HOPED TO GIVE FINAL APPROVAL TO THE ELECTION LAWS AND PROMULGATE THEM BY THE 19TH OF JUNE. HE FELT THAT THE WAY THINGS WERE GOING THAT THERE WAS VERY SMALL RISK IN HOLDING THEM. HE ALSO HOPED TO ESTABLISH THE PROPOSED CIVIL-MILITARY ADVISORY COMMITTEE BY THE 19 TH OF JUNE.

4. IN REPLY TO DEPTEL 3792, I DO NOT BELIEVE MY VIEW OF THE ELECTIONS IS VERY DIFFERENT FROM THAT OF THE DEPARTMENT'S. I AM PERHAPS ESPECIALLY CONCERNED BY THE DANGER OF INTIMIDATION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY ONCE THEY HAVE BEEN ELECTED, AND OF THEIR MAKING SOME KIND OF DEMAND ON US WHICH WOULD EMBARRASS US. FOR THIS REASON, I THINK WE SHOULD BE SLOW TO GIVE ANY COMMITMENTS IN ADVANCE. LODGE
BT

Advance copy to S/S-O at 7:35 a.m. 6/9/66
Passed to White House, DOD & CIA at 7:35 a.m. 6/9/66

SECRET

30

DECLASSIFIED POL 14 VIETS R's
XR 2N 23 VIETS

INCOMING TELEGRAM *Department of State*

319

4
Action
SS
Info

CONFIDENTIAL

NNNNVV MJA064JIA487
PP RUEHC RUEHDT
DE RUMJIR 1583A 1630845
ZNY CCCCC
P R 120834Z
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5487
INFO RUEHDT/USUN NY 206
RUALOS/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 198
STATE GRNC
BT
C O N F I D E N T I A L JUNE 12

1966 JUN 12 AM 6 01

L I M D I S

Pol 14 Viets
XR 2N 23 Viets

REF: DEPTEL 3839, SENT USUN 2854, SEOUL 1315

1. I THINK WE HAVE CARRIED UN OBSERVERS' PROPOSAL TO A LOGICAL END. WE MIGHT JUST LET U THANT BURY IT AT A TIME AND PLACE OF HIS OWN CHOOSING.

2. I DO NOT BELIEVE WE NEED PURSUE SUBJECT OF ALTERNATIVE OBSERVERS AT THIS TIME. ELECTIONS IN VIETNAM ARE GOING TO BE OBSERVED CLOSER THAN MOST ELECTION ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD. THE INTERNATIONAL

PAGE 2 RUMJIR 1583A C O N F I D E N T I A L
PRESS ARE ALL OVER THIS COUNTRY. ANYBODY WHO WANTS TO KNOW WHAT GOES ON CAN JUST READ ABOUT IT OR COME AND FIND OUT.

3. I REGRET SEEING WORDS LIKE "IMPARTIAL INTERNATIONAL SUPERVISOR" CREEPING INTO ALTERNATIVE CONSIDERATIONS (SECOND SENTENCE, PARA 3 OF REFTEL). GVN WILL NOT RPT NOT CONSIDER IT DESIRABLE TO HAVE ANYONE "SUPERVISE" THEIR ELECTIONS--NOR SHOULD THEY. TO INVITE NIGERIA, WHICH JUST ANNOUNCED AN ALMOST COMPLETE WITHDRAWAL FROM POLITICAL LIFE IN ITS OWN TERRITORY FOR THREE YEARS, STRIKES ME AS A BIT MUCH.

(2)

4. COUNTRIES PRESENT AT SEOUL CONFERENCE ALL HAVE DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS IN SAIGON. THEY WILL HAVE NO TROUBLE "OBSERVING". IF ANY OF THEM WISH TO SEND SPECIAL MISSION, THERE IS NOTHING TO PREVENT IT.

DECLASSIFIED BY NSC

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED

5. IN SUM, WHY NOT PUT THE SPECIAL OBSERVERS APPROACH ON THE BACK-BURNER FOR AT LEAST A WHILE? THE VIETNAMESE HAVE BEEN COOPERATIVE AND HAVE RESPONDED NOBLY TO OUR UN GAMBIT. AS I UNDERSTAND IT, OUR CRITICS AT HOME CANNOT COMPLAIN ON THE SCORE. AS WE GET SOMEWHAT CLOSER TO THE ELECTION ITSELF, WE CAN TAKE ANOTHER LOOK.
LODGE.
BT
NOTE: ADVANCE DELIVERY TO S/S-O AT: 6:17 A.M. 6/12/66
PASSED: WHITE HOUSE, DOD, CIA, USIA, NSA AT: 6:17 A.M. 6/12/66

DECLASSIFIED

30

INCOMING TELEGRAM Department of State

POL 14 VIETS

(321) R

81

Action

FE

Info

SS
G
SP
SAH
L
H
EUR
P
NSC
INP
AID

RSR

UNCLASSIFIED

VV EUA193PEA813

11 4093

00 RUEHC
DE RUABSG 1797E/1 1651720
ZNR UUUUU
O 141710Z
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5536
INFO RUHLHQ/CINCPAC 2910
STATE GRNC
BT
UNCLAS JUNE 15 SECTION ONE OF TWO

1966 JUN 14 PM 3:24

Saigon 3536

SUBJ: ELECTION LAW
FOLLOWING IS ROUGH TRANSLATION OF JUNE 14 VIETNAM PRESS INTERVIEW WITH SECRETARY GENERAL OF DIRECTORATE PHAM XUAN CHIEU AND UNDER SECRETARY OF INTERIOR NGUYEN VAN TUONG, ON SUBJECT OF ELECTION LAW AND DECISIONS TAKEN BY DIRECTORATE IN ITS JUNE 11 MEETING TO CONSIDER REPORT OF ELECTORAL LAW DRAFTING COMMITTEE. QUOTE

1. QUESTION: IT SEEMS TO US THAT PERIOD BETWEEN NOW AND SEPTEMBER 1966 IS TOO BRIEF FOR MINISTRY OF INTERIOR TO CARRY OUT ELECTIONS.

PAGE 2 RUABSG 1797E/1 UNCLAS
IS IT POSSIBLE TO CHANGE DATE OF ELECTIONS?
ANSWER: ALTHOUGH MINISTRY OF INTERIOR HAS ONLY BRIEF PERIOD IN WHICH TO PREPARE ELECTIONS, DIRECTORATE IS DETERMINED THAT DATE SHALL BE SET AT SEPTEMBER 11, 1966 CONFORMING WITH PROMISE MADE TO PEOPLE.

2. QUESTION: HAS DIRECTORATE DECIDED TO ADOPT SYSTEM OF INDIVIDUAL CANDIDACIES OR THAT OF LIST? WHAT ARE REASONS FOR ITS CHOICE?
ANSWER: DIRECTORATE HAS ADOPTED SYSTEM OF LIST VOTING WITH PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION, AFTER VOTE OF 14 "YES" OUT OF 18; THAT IS TO SAY, 14 WERE IN FAVOR OF LIST VOTING, 2 VOTED FOR INDIVIDUAL CANDIDACIES, AND THERE WERE TWO BLANK BALLOTS. TWO MEMBERS OF DIRECTORATE WERE ABSENT: TRAN VAN DO AND I CORPS COMMANDER GENERAL LAM. DIRECTORATE CHOSE LIST VOTING IN ORDER THAT PEOPLE CAN VOTE FOR PROGRAM, FOR PLAN RATHER THAN FOR INDIVIDUAL
IN CHOOSING LIST VOTING, DIRECTORATE HAD IN MIND ENCOURAGING ACTIVITIES OF PARTIES AND ENCOURAGING THEM TO GROUP TOGETHER

UNCLASSIFIED

ACCORDING TO THEIR GENERAL BENT IN FUTURE ASSEMBLY. I THINK THAT, STARTING NOW, IT IS NECESSARY TO PREPARE FOR REGROUPING OF PARTIES AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS AND FIND WORTHY CANDIDATES TO CONSTITUTE ELECTORAL LISTS. IF THIS WORK IS NOT CARRIED

PAGE 3 RUABSG 1797E/1 UNCLAS
OUT ON URGENT BASIS, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT AT LAST MINUTE THERE WILL BE SELECTED THOSE ELEMENTS LACKING CONSTRUCTIVE SPIRIT; FAILURE WOULD THEN BE INEVITABLE.
THE METHODS OF LIST VOTING CHOSEN BY DIRECTORATE ARE ALSO INTENDED TO PREVENT INFILTRATION OF COMMUNIST AND NEUTRALIST ELEMENTS. SYSTEM OF CHOOSING LISTS WILL IN AND OF ITSELF SLECT GOOD ELEMENTS WHILE ELIMINATING THE BAD. IF LIST INCLUDES ONLY BAD ELEMENTS, CERTAINLY NONE OF THEM COULD BE ELECTED.
NEVERTHELESS, THERE ARE NUMBER OF ELECTORAL DISTRICTS WHERE THERE WILL BE ELECTED ONLY A SINGLE DERUTY BECAUSE OF RELATIVELY LOW NUMBER OF VOTERS. INNCHESE DISTRICTS ELECTION WILL BE BY SINGLE VOTE AND RELATIVE MAJORITY.

3. QUESTION: ELECTORAL LAW DRAFTING COMMITTEE PROPOSED THAT FUTURE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY HAVE LEGISLATIVE POWER AS WELL. WILL YOU TELL US WHAT DIRECTORATE DECIDED, PLEASE GENERAL?
ANSWER: BY UNANIMOUS VOTE, DIRECTORATE DECIDED THAT FUTURE ASSEMBLY WILL HAVE ONLY POWER TO DRAFT CONSTITUTION.

4. QUESTION: WILL YOU SPELL OUT ROLE OF ASSEMBLY? HOW WILL IT BE ORGANIZED?
ANSWER: CONSITUENT ASSEMBLY WILL BE ORGANIZED ACCORDING TO FORMULA ADOPTED BY DEMOCRATIC COUNTRIES. DEPUTIES WILL ENJOY PARLIMENTARY IMMUNITY AND WILL NOT HAVE RIGHT TO CUMULATE ADDITIONAL PAYING JOBS IN ORDER TO GUARANTEE INDEPENDANT AND

PAGE 4 RUABSG 1797E/1 UNCLAS

PARTIAL CHARACTER OF PEOPLE'S REPRESENTATIVES.
FIRST SESSION OF ASSEMBLY WILL BE CALLED BY CHAIRMAN OF DIRECTORY WITHIN SOME FIFTEEN DAYS FOLLOWING ELECTIONS, THAT IS TO SAY DURING SECOND HALF OF SEPTEMBER 1966. ASSEMBLY WILL DRAFT AND VOTE CONSTITUTION WITHIN PERIOD OF SIX MONTHS. DRAFT CONSTITUTION WILL BE TRANSMITTED TO CHAIRMAN OF DIRECTORATE IN ORDER THAT IT BE PROMULGATED.

DECLASSIFIED

MANDATE OF CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY WILL EXPIRE DE FACTO ONCE CONSTITUTION WILL HAVE BEEN PROMULGATED AND DIRECTORATE WILL HAVE TASK OF ESTABLISHING NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS SPECIFIED BY CONSTITUTION WITHIN 3 TO 6 MONTHS FROM DAY CONSTITUTION IS PROMULGATED.

5. QUESTION: WHAT ARE PREQUISITES FOR VOTING? WHAT SHOULD THOSE PERSONS DO WHO WILL HAVE CHANGED RESIDENCE AND WHO WISH TO VOTE? HOW WILL ELECTORAL LIST BE ESTABLISHED FOR MILITARY AND THEIR FAMILIES LIVING IN BARRACKS?
ANSWER: TO VOTE, IT IS SUFFICENT TO BE OF VIETNAMESE NATIONALITY AND BE 18 YEARS OLD AS OF DEC. 31, 1965 IN ORDER TO BE INSCRIBED ON ELECTORAL LIST AND HAVE VALID VOTER REGISTRATION CARD, EXCEPT IN INSTANCE WHERE INDIVIDUAL IN QUESTION HAS BEEN DEPRIVED OF RIGHTS AS CITIZEN BY COURT. EACH CITIZEN HAS RIGHT TO BE INSCRIBED ON ONLY ONE ELECTORAL LIST.

PAGE 5 RUABSG 1797E/1 UNCLAS
ANY VOTER WHO HAS CHANGED RESIDENCE AND WOULD LIKE TO VOTE AT HIS NEW ADDRESS, SHOULD ASK AUTHORITIES TO CROSS HIS NAME OFF ELECTORAL LIST OF AREA WHERE HE PREVIOUSLY LIVED, THEN, UPON PRESENTATION OF AN AFFIDAVIT, HAVE HIMSELF INSCRIBED ON ELECTORAL LIST OF AREA WHERE HE HAS JUST ESTABLISHED RESIDENCE. THESE FORMALTIES SHOUDL BE COMPLETED BY JULY 8, 1966 AT THE LATEST. FOR MILITARY AND THEIR FAMILIES LIVING IN BARRACKS, THE LIST OF THEIR NAMES WILL BE COMPILED BY THEIR UNIT COMMANDER AT BATTALION LEVEL AND THEN SENT TO PREFECT OR MAYOR OR PROVINCE CHIEF TO BE STAMPED BEFORE POSTING.

6. QUESTION: WILL NUMBER OF SEATS BE BASED UPON NUMBER OF INHABITANTS OR NUMBER OF VOTERS? WHEN WILL LIST OF VOTERS (ELECTORAL LIST) BE POSTED?
ANSWER: DIRECTORATE HAS DECIDED THAT NUMBER OF DEPUTIES WILL BE PROPORTIONAL TO NUMBER OF VOTERS. ACCORDING TO LAST STATISTIQUES OF MINISTRY INTERIOR, THERE ARE PRESENTLY 5,122,301 VOTERS IN THE ENTIRE COUNTRY, OF WHOM ABOUT 1,300,000 ARE IN SAIGON AND GIA DINH.
LIST OF VOTERS WILL BE POSTED FOR FIRST TIME JULY 18, 1966. CITIZENS FULFILLING ALL NECESSARY CONDITIONS WHO ARE NOT INSCRIBED ON THIS LIST OR WHO DISCOVER ERRORS OF INSCRIPTION, WILL HAVE RIGHT TO MAKE THEIR DEMAND FOR INSCRIPTION TO LOCAL ADMINISTRATIVE. LIST OF VOTERS WILL BE POSTED FOR SECOND TIME AUGUST 20, 1966. (MORE)
LODGE

Note: Advance deliver to S/S-O at 3:52pm 6/14/66.
Passed: White House, DOD, CIA, USIA NSA at 3:52pm 6/14/66.

DECLASSIFIED

INCOMING TELEGRAM Department of State

UNCLASSIFIED

81
Action FE

Info SS G SP SAH L H EUR P NSC INR AID RSR

NNNNVV EUA202PEA821
OO RUEHC
DE RUABSG 1797E/2 1651830
ZNR UUUUU
O 141710Z
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5536
INFO RUHLHQ/CINCPAC 2910
STATE GRNC
BT
1966 JUN 14 PM 4 35 14149
UNCLAS JUNE 15 SECTION TWO OF TWO

SUBJ: ELECTION LAW
X SECOND TIME AUGUST 20, 1966.

7. QUESTION: WHAT CONDITIONS MUST CANDIDATES FULFILL ? FOR THOSE WHO ARE NATURALIZED CITIZENS, WHAT IS PERIOD OF NATURALIZATION REQUIRED?
ANSWER: THOSE CITIZENS OF EITHER SEX HAVE THE RIGHT TO PRESENT THEIR CANDIDACY FOR CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS PROVIDED THEY FULFILL FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:
A. HAVING VIETNAMESE NATIONALITY CONTINUALLY SINCE THEIR BIRTH, OR HAVING OBTAINED VIETNAMESE NATIONALITY AT LEAST FIVE YEARS PRIOR TO OR REGAINED SAID NATIONALITY AT LEAST THREE

PAGE 2 RUABSG 1797E/2 UNCLAS
YEARS PRIOR TO DATE OF ELECTIONS. DAY OF ACQUIRING VIETNAMESE NATIONALITY IS DAY OF SIGNATURE OF DECREE OF NATURALIZATION. DAY OF REGAINING NATIONALITY IS DAY OF SIGNATURE OF DECREE AUTHORIZING IT OR DAY WHEN PERSON IN QUESTION MADE HIS DECLARATION TO COMPETENT AUTHORITIES, ASKING TO REGAIN VIETNAMESE NATIONALITY.
B. BEING AT LEAST 25 YEARS OLD THE DAY OF ELECTIONS.
C. ENJOYING CITIZENSHIP RIGHTS.
D. LIVING ON VIETNAMESE TERRITORY CONTINUOUSLY DURING AT LEAST ONE YEAR BEFORE DAY OF ELECTIONS.
E. BEING IN ORDER WITH RESPECT TO MILITARY SERVICE.
F. NOT BEING ON LIST OF UNWORTHY PERSONS.

8. QUESTION: WHAT ARE DETAILS ON MEANING OF UNWORTHY PERSONS?
ANSWER: THOSE PERSONS ARE CONSIDERED UNWORTHY AND WITHOUT THE RIGHT TO POSE THEIR CANDIDATURE WHO:
A- HAVE BEEN GIVEN CRIMINAL SENTENCES
B- WHO HAVE BEEN GIVEN CORRECTIONAL SENTENCES FOR THEFT.

UNCLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

SWINDLING, BREACH OF TRUST, FORGERY, MORALS VIOLATIONS, BRIBERY, GRAFT AND EMBEZZLEMENT.
C- HAVE BEEN SENTENCED TO THREE OR MORE YEARS IN PRISON FOR LIGHT OFFENSES OTHER THAN THOSE COMMITTED BY CARELESSNESS OR NEGLIGENCE.

PAGE 3 RUABSG 1797E/2 UNCLAS
D- WHO HAVE BEEN DEPRIVED OF CITIZENSHIP RIGHT OR RIGHT OF CANDIDACY BY A COURT IN ACCORDANCE WITH LAWS NOW IN FORCE.
E- WHO ARE LUNATICS OR HAVE MENTAL ILLNESS
F- WHO HAVE BEEN DECLARED BANKRUPT AND ARE NOT YET REINSTATED.
G- WHO HAVE NOT COMPLIED WITH REGULATIONS FOR MILITARY SERVICE
H- WHO ARE CIVIL SERVANTS, MILITARY, GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IN ALL BRANCHES AND AT ALL LEVELS, WHO HAVE FOR SUSPENDED, DISMISSED OR FORCED TO RESIGN FOR REASONS OF DISCIPLINE
I- WHO HAVE WORKED DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY FOR PROFIT OF COMMUNISM AND OF NEUTRALISM (ACCORDING TO DECREE-LAW 93 OF FEBRUARY 1, 1964 AND DECREE-LAW 4-65 OF MAY 17, 1965 OUTLAWING COMMUNISM AND NEUTRALISM)
PARAGRAPHS A,B, AND C ABOVE APPLY ONLY TO THOSE WHO HAD THEIR STATUS RESTORED ACCORDING TO PROVISIONS STIPULATED IN DECREE-LAW 4/63 OF DECEMBER 24, 1963, DECREE 8- TTP OF JANUARY 4, 1964 AND SUPPLETORY TEXTS.
THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN SENTENCED FOR CRIMINAL OR LIGHT OFFENSES HAVING A POLITICAL CHARACTER OR A POLITICAL MOTIVE BEFORE NOVEMBER 1, 1963 MAY REQUEST REVISION OF THEIR RIGHT OF CANDIDACY BEFORE JUNE 25, 1966.

9. QUESTION: COULD YOU TELL US THE PLACE AND THE PERIOD FOR POSING ONE'S CANDIDACY AS WELL AS DATE FOR POSTING LIST OF CANDIDATES?
ANSWER: CANDIDATES MUST MAKE THEIR REQUEST TO PREFECTURE, TOWN HALL,

PAGE 4 RUABSG 1797E/2 UNCLAS
OR PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION BEFORE JULY 11 1966 AT LATEST, ACCOMPANIED BY FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS:
A- BIRTH CERTIFICATE OR DOCUMENT REPLACING IT
B- 2 POLICE RECORD NOT MORE THAN THREE MONTHS OLD
C- CERTIFICATE OF RESIDENCE IN VIETNAM DELIVERED BY PREFECT, MAYOR OR PROVINCE CHIEF OF PRESENT PLACE OF RESIDENCE
D CERTIFICATE OF NATURALIZATION OR REGAINING VIETNAMESE NATIONALITY
E- CERTIFICATE DELIVERED BY MINISTRY OF DEFENSE OR COMPETENT MILITARY BODY ATTESTING THAT CANDIDATE HAS COMPLIED WITH MILITARY SERVICE REGULATIONS.
F- CAMPAIGN SYMBOL AND 2 PHOTOS

DECLASSIFIED

6- RECEIPT OF PAYMENT FOR ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN FEES
IN DISTRICTS WITH 2 SEATS FOR 2 OR MORE DEPUTIES, CANDIDATES WILL MAKE ONE SINGLE DEMAND FOR EACH LIST. DEMANDS SHOULD MENTION NAME OF LIST AND ORDER OF NAMES OF CANDIDATES AS WELL AS CONTAIN CANDIDATES' SIGNATURES.
FIRST POSTING OF LIST OF CANDIDATES IS SET FOR JULY 14, 1966. DEMANDS FOR CHANGES OR ADDITIONS WILL BE RECEIVED UP UNTIL JULY 18, 1966. AFTER FINAL EXAMINATION BY CENTRAL CONTROL COMMITTEE, SECOND POSTING WILL TAKE PLACE AUGUST 12, 1966.

10- QUESTION: COULD YOU TELL US THE NUMBER OF ELECTORAL DISTRICTS, THE NUMBER OF DEPUTIES AND HOW MANY SEATS WILL BE RESERVED FOR MONTAGNARDS AND VIETNAMESE OF KHMER ORIGIN?
ANSWER: ELECTION DAY IS SET FOR SEPTEMBER 11, 1966. THE

ELECTORAL DISTRICTS WILL BE PROVINCES AND AUTONOMOUS CITIES. EXCEPTIONALLY THE PROVINCE OF GIA DINH WILL HAVE TWO DISTRICTS AND THE CITY OF SAIGON THREE DISTRICTS. THERE WILL BE ONE DEPUTY FOR EACH DISTRICT OF 50,000 ELECTORS. THE COUNTRY AS A WHOLE WILL THUS BE DIVIDED INTO 52 ELECTORAL DISTRICTS AND THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY WILL HAVE ABOUT 120 DEPUTIES.
THERE WILL BE 27 ELECTORAL DISTRICTS WITH ONE DEPUTY ONLY AND 25WITH 2 OR MORE. IN THE FIRST GROUP, THE VOTE WILL BE BY SINGLE CANDIDATE AND RELATIVE MAJORITY. IN THE SECOND GROUP, THE VOTE WILL BE BY LIST WITH PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION.
IN CERTAIN PROVINCES OF THE WEST OF THE SOUTHERN REGION, A CERTAIN NUMBER OF SEATS WILL BE RESERVED FOR CANDIDATES OF KHMER ORIGIN. AS FOR THE MONTAGNARDS, THEY WILL VOTE SEPARATELY ACCORDING TO THEIR CUSTOMS AND TRADITIONS.

11- QUESTION: WOULD YOU TELL US WHEN THE DECREE-LAW ON THE ORGANIZATION OF ELECTIONS WILL BE ISSUED ? DO YOU BELIEVE THE ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD ON PRECISELY THE DATE SPECIFIED?
ANSWER: THE DECREE-LAW WILL BE ISSUED ON JUNE 19 ON "ARMED FORCES DAY". AS TO YOUR OTHER QUESTION, THE GOVERNMENT IS FIRMLY RESOLVED TO KEEP ITS WORD. HOWEVER, ALL THE EFFORTS OF OF THE ELECTORS AS WELL AS ALL THOSE OF THE CANDIDATES WILL NOT BE TOO MANY TO ENABLE THE ELECTIONS TO TAKE PLACE ON THE DATE SPECIFIED. END QUOTE
LODGE

Note: Advance delivery to S/S-O at 5pm 6/14/66
Passed: White House, DOD, CIA, USIA, NSA at 5pm 6/14/66.

UNCLASSIFIED

339 (322)

30/

UNCLASSIFIED POL 14 VIETS

INCOMING TELEGRAM Department of State XR UN 7

7-2

CONFIDENTIAL

Action FE

info SS G SP SAH L H AF ARA EUR NEA IO P USIA NSC INR CIA NSA DOD AID RSR

VV MJA195JIA757
RR RUEHC RUEHDT
DE RUMJIR 3564A 1810655
ZNY CCCCC
R 3006252
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 5854
INFO RUEHDT/USUN 213
BT
C O N F I D E N T I A L JUNE 30

29571

1966 JUN 30 AM 3 45

Pol 14 Viets 7

REF USUN'S 204; SENT DEPT 5407

SUBJ: ELECTION OBSERVERS

1. WE ARE INCLINED TO FEEL THAT FURTHER INITIATIVES IN A UNITED NATIONS CONTEXT FOR ELECTION OBSERVERS WOULD PROVE TO BE TOO COMPLICATED AND, IN THE END, UNPRODUCTIVE. GVN, AT OUR SUGGESTION, HAS MADE ITS GESTURE AND HAS BEEN REBUFFED. FURTHER EFFORTS TO OBTAIN UN SPONSORED OR ASSOCIATED PRESENCE WOULD PROBABLY FAIL OR ENTAIL COMPLICATED PROCEDURES AND UNCERTAIN RESULTS. WHILE WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR IMAGINATIVE USUN PROPOSAL FOR SOME FURTHER EFFORT WITHIN UN SUCH AS THAT OUTLINED IN PARAS 7 AND 8 OF REFTEL, WE BELIEVE THERE ARE PREFERABLE ALTERNATIVES. RATHER THAN LOOK TO SUCH EFFORTS, WE BELIEVE THAT WE SHOULD NOW TURN OUR ATTENTION TO OBTAIN AND OBSERVING PRESENCE OUTSIDE THE UN.

2. AS WE SUGGESTED IN EARLIER COMMUNICATIONS, GVN COULD ALWAYS INVITE THOSE NATIONS WITH WHOM IT HAS DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR RELATIONS TO SEND OBSERVERS. THIS WOULD AMOUNT TO AN INVITATION TO SOMETHING OVER TWENTY-SIX NATIONS INCLUDING SUCH WELL-KNOWN NON-ALIGNED NATIONS AS SWITZERLAND, SWEDEN, AND INDIA. IF A SIGNIFICANT PERCENTAGE OF THESE NATIONS ACCEPTED THE GVN INVITATION, THE RESULTING OBSERVATION CORPS WOULD AMOUNT TO A GROUP EVERY BIT AS RESPECTABLE AS ANY WE COULD EVER EXPECT THE UNITED NATIONS TO PROVIDE. THIS SAME PRINCIPLE WOULD APPLY IF GVN EXTENDED INVITATION TO ASPAC NATIONS (ALL OF WHOM ARE REPRESENTED IN SAIGON).

(2)

3. ASIDE FROM ITS OTHER OBVIOUS ADVANTAGES, THIS PLAN WOULD SHIFT THE FOCUS OF THE ENTIRE OBSERVER QUESTION TO SAIGON AND THE GVN AND AWAY FROM NEW YORK WHERE SEVERAL OF THE MEMBER DELEGATIONS AND

CONFIDENTIAL

UNCLASSIFIED

R

Saigon 5854

DECLASSIFIED

THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF APPEAR DISINCLINED TO CONSIDER GVN OBSERVER DELEGATION AS ANYTHING MORE THAN A U.S. PUPPET. BY PLACING THE INITIATIVE AND THE ATTENTION HERE, THE GVN MINFORAFFAIRS AT LEAST APPEARS TO BE DEALING DIRECTLY AND INDEPENDENTLY WITH OTHER NATIONS.

4. WHETHER THIS SUGGESTION RESULTS IN AN ACCEPTABLE PRESENCE OR NOT, WE STILL WILL HAVE THE FOREIGN PRESS CORPS WHICH IS RESIDENT HERE IN SAIGON. THIS CORPS NOW BULKS AS LARGE OR LARGER THAN ANY OTHER IN THE WORLD. (AS OF JUNE 30, 360 FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS WERE RESIDENT OR SEMI-RESIDENT IN SAIGON.) WE CAN COUNT ON THEM TO FILE DETAILED AND OFTEN CONFLICTING STORIES ON THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN AS IT UNFOLDS AND ON THE CONDUCT OF THE ELECTIONS THEMSELVES. IF THE USUAL RESIDENTS ARE NOT ENOUGH BY THEMSELVES, WE CAN UNDOUBTEDLY GENERATE AN INVITATION FROM THE VIETNAMESE PRESS ASSOCIATION TO SISTER ORGANIZATIONS IN NEIGHBORING ASIAN COUNTRIES TO SEND CORRESPONDENTS TO COVER THE ELECTION PERIOD ITSELF.

5. FINALLY, THERE IS ONE MORE SUGGESTION REGARDING OBSERVERS: AT DINNER JUNE 28 DR. PHAM QUANG DAN, WHO HAS BEEN PRESIDENT OF THE GIA DINH PROVINCE COUNCIL AND WAS AN OPPOSITION MEMBER OF DIEM'S NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (HE WAS AT ONE TIME JAILED FOR ANTI-DIEM ACTIVITIES), SUGGESTED THAT THE INTERNATIONAL PARLIAMENTARY UNION BE INVITED TO SEND OBSERVERS TO VIETNAM IN SEPTEMBER. WE HAVE NO IDEA REGARDING FEASIBILITY OF THIS PROPOSAL AND WOULD WELCOME DEPTS COMMENTS. INTERNAL POLITICS OF IPU OR SOME IPU PRECEDENT AGAINST SUCH A PROPOSAL MAY IMMEDIATELY RULE IT OUT. IN IGNORANCE OF SUCH INFORMATION, PROPOSAL STRIKES US AS USEFUL AND ONE THAT COULD IF FEASIBLE BE EXPLORED IN CONJUNCTION WITH INDEPENDENT ACTION TO INVITE OBSERVERS FROM THOSE NATIONS HAVING DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR REPRESENTATION IN SAIGON. WE FIND IPU PREFERABLE TO USUN'S SUGGESTED USE OF INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF JURISTS. LODGE
BT

DECLASSIFIED

INCOMING TELEGRAM Department of State

SECRET

40
Action
SS
Info

NN:NNVV MJA486JIA868
OO RUEHC
DE RUMJIR 1767A 1651130
ZNY SSSSS
O 141115Z
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5527
BT

1966 JUN 14 AM 3472

S E C R E T EXDIS JUNE 14

E X D I S

I CALLED ON KY TODAY:

1. HE PLANS TO PROMULGATE THE ELECTION LAWS AFTER CONSULTING WITH THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION.

2. HE PLANS TO MAKE HIS ANTI-INFLATION ANNOUNCEMENT (DEVALUATION, ETC.) ON SATURDAY, JUNE 18 INSTEAD OF SUNDAY, JUNE 19.

3. I TOLD HIM THE WORD "NEUTRALIST" WAS DEFINED COMPLETELY DIFFERENTLY IN THE UNITED STATE FROM WHAT IT WAS IN VIETNAM. HERE IT MEANS SOMEBODY WHO WAS A CRYPTO-COMMUNIST OR WORKED ACTIVELY AGAINST THE NATIONAL INTEREST. IN AMERICA IT MEANT SOMEONE WHO HOPED SOMEDAY THAT VIETNAM WOULD BE STRONG ENOUGH TO BE NEUTRAL IN THE WORLD POWER STRUGGLE. IF HE COULD MAKE IT CLEAR THAT IN VIETNAM THE WORD "NEUTRALIST" WAS DEFINED AS SOMEBODY WHO SUPPORTS THE COMMUNISTS, WHO ACTS CONTRARY TO THE INTERESTS OF THE NATION, WHO GIVES AID AND COMFORT TO THE ENEMY, IT WOULD ELIMINATE MANY MISUNDERSTANDINGS.

4. HE SAID TAM CHAU HAD BEEN TO CALL ON HIM FREQUENTLY BUT COULD THINK OF NOTHING EXCEPT THAT KY AND THIEU SHOULD LEAVE THE GOVERNMENT. THIS, HE FELT, COULD HARDLY BE DESCRIBED AS A PROGRAM. KY SAID HE WOULD OFFER TAM CHAU ANYTHING WITHIN REASON TO SAVE TAM CHAU'S FACE, BUT THAT NEITHER KY NOR TAM CHAU COULD THINK OF ANYTHING.

5. PHAP TRI CALLED KY TO ASK WHY GVN DID NOT USE TEAR GAS AT CATHOLIC PARADE ON SUNDAY. HE WAS TOLD THAT CATHOLICS HAD A PERMIT; IF BUDDHISTS PARADED UNDER A PERMIT, THEY WOULD NOT BE TEAR-GASED EITHER.

GP-1
LODGE
BT
NOTE:PASSED S/S-O, WHITE HOUSE, DOD, CIA 6/14/66 8:10 AM

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED P&L 74 VIET 5

INCOMING TELEGRAM *Department of State*

48

UNCLASSIFIED

Action

FE

Info

SS
G
SP
SAH
L
H
IO
P
NSC
INR
AID
RSR

NNNNVV EUA337PEA211
PP RUEHC
DE RUABSG 1881E 1661130
ZNR UUUUU
P 0QTQ0WTZ 1966 JUN 15 AM 9 05 14829
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5557
STATE GRNC
BT
UNCLAS JUNE 15

1. FRENCH EDITION VIETNAM PRESSE JUNE 15, 1966 CARRIES INTERVIEW WITH LAWYER VUONG VAN BAC, MEMBER OF ELECTION LAW DRAFTING COUNCIL. FOLLOWING IS UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION BAC INTERVIEW:

2. LAWYER VUONG VAN BAC, MEMBER OF THE COMMITTEE CHARGED WITH THE DRAFTING OF THE ELECTORAL LAW, IN THE COURSE OF AN INTERVIEW LAST SATURDAY ON THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY DECLARED: "THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY AND CONSTITUTION DRAFTED BY THIS ASSEMBLYWILL GIVE THE GOVERNMENT OF OUR COUNTRY A SOLID LEGAL BASE WHICH WILL BE

PAGE 2 RUABSG 1881E UNCLAS
MOST USEFUL BOTH FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL PUBLIC OPINION.

3. "THE FORMATION OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY IS A NECESSARY ENTERPRISE WHICH SHOULD HAVE BEEN REALIZED SHORTLY AFTER THE REVOLUTION OF NOVEMBER 1, 1963." LAWYER BAC ADDED THAT IN THE PRESENT SITUATION THE WAR MAKES IT DIFFICULT TO HOLD CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS, BUT THIS IS NOT A REASON TO SUPPRESS THESE ELECTIONS.

4. AS FOR THE PERIOD OF THREE MONTHS ALLOTTED FOR THE ORGANIZATION OF THE ELECTIONS, LAWYER BAC DECLARED, "IF ONE REQUIRES PERFECTIOON, A PERIOD OF THREE MONTHS IS TOO SHORT. NEVERTHELESS, GIVEN THE PREVAILING SITUATION, ELECTIONS QUICKLY ORGANIZED PRESENT CERTAIN ADVANTAGES AND THE PERIOD OF THREE MONTHS WILL SUFFICE FOR THE ORGANIZATION OF THESE ELECTIONS."

5. ADDRESSING HIMSELF TO THE QUESTION OF WHETHER THE SYSTEM OF SINGULAR CANDIDACIES OR MODIFIED LIST VOTING IS USED, LAWYER BAC RESPONDED, "DURING THE DELIBERATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE CHARGED WITH THE DRAFTING OF THE ELECTION LAW, I PUBLICLY

UNCLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

PAGE 3 RUABSG 1881E UNCLAS
FAVORED THE LIST SYSTEM WITH PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION.

6. "IN THEORY, EACH SYSTEM HAS ITS ADVANTAGES AND ITS DISADVANTAGES. THESE HAVE BEEN DEALT WITH IN VARIOUS WORKS ON CONSTITUTION LAW. HERE WE ONLY BASE OURSELVES ON PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS.

7. "THE LIST SYSTEM WITH PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION SEEMS BEST SUITED TO THE PRESENT SITUATION.

8. "FIRST, THE NEED FOR BALANCE. IF IN THE FORTHCOMING NATIONAL ASSEMBLY A GROUP OCCUPIES ALL THE SEATS, IT COULD PRODUCE DIFFICULTIES. IF ALL THE LARGE GROUPS HAVE THEIR REPRESENTATIVES IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, THANKS TO PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION, SOLIDARITY AND UNDERSTANDING CAN BE MORE EASILY ACQUIRED.

9. "SECOND, THE NEED FOR COHESION. THE DIFFERENT GROUPS AND THE SOCIAL GROUPS OF OUR COUNTRY ARE ACTUALLY SERIOUSLY DIVIDED AND IT IS DIFFICULT TO ACHIEVE A STABLE SITUATION. THE LIST SYSTEM WILL GREATLY ENCOURAGE POLITICIANS, SMALL GROUPS, AND DIFFERENT ORGANIZATIONS TO COALESCE. THIS ALLIANCE, WHICH WILL APPEAR DURING THE ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN, WILL HAVE A GOOD CHANCE OF CONTINUING IN THE FUTURE.

PAGE 4 RUABSG 1881E UNCLAS
10. "THIRD, THE NEED TO DEVELOP A POLITICAL CONSCIENCE. IT IS TIME THAT WE MADE PROGRESS TOWARD A POLITICAL LIFE BASED ON A RATIONAL SYSTEM OF PARTIES WITH ACCENT ON THE POSITION AND ORGANIZATION OF THESE PARTIES."

11. GIVING HIS IMPRESSIONS AFTER A MONTH ON THE DRAFTING COMMITTEE, LAWYER BAC DREW ATTENTION TO THS DEMOCRATIC CHARACTER OF THE WORK METHODS OF THE COMMITTEE. THIS DEMONSTRATED, ACCORDING TO BAC, THAT PERSONS OF DIFFERENT GROUPS AND RELIGIONS HOLDING DIFFERENT OPINIONS COULD WORK TOGETHER AS LONG AS THEY POSSESSED GOODWILL.

DECLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

12. "THE DRAFT LAW WAS, IN LARGE PART, DISCUSSED AND ADOPTED BY VOTE. THIS IS WHY ONE MUST CONSIDER THAT THIS DRAFT EXPRESSES THE OPINION OF THE MAJORITY OF THE COMMITTEE."

13. RESPONDING TO A FINAL QUESTION RELATING TO THE POWERS OF THE NATIONAL CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY, LAWYER [illegible]C DECLARED THAT THE FUTURE ASSEMBLY COULD TRANSFORM ITSELF INTO A LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY IF THE CONSTITUTION SO INDICATES.
14. "THE DRAFTING COMMITTEE," HE EMPHASIZED, "NEVER PROPOSED THAT THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMVBY BECOME A LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY. THE COMMITTEE SPECIFIED ONLY THAT THE MANDATE OF THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY WOULD TERMINATE AFTER THE

PROMULGATION OF THE CONSTITUION AND A LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY WOULD BE ELECTED ONLY IN THE CASE WHERE THE FUTURE CONSTITUTION SPECIFIED THAT THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY WAS TRANSFORMED INTO A LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY. THIS IS NOT A RECOMMENDATION BECAUSE THE DRAFTING COMMITTE DID NOT CONSIDER ITSELF IMPOWERED TO MAKE RECOMMENDAOIONS TO THE FUTURE MEMBERS OF THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY".
LODGE
BT

NOTE: PASSED S/S-O, WHITE HOUSE, DOD, CIA, USIA, NSA AT 12:10 P.M. 6/15/66

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

POL 14 VIET S

INCOMING TELEGRAM Department of State

Saigon 5560

CONFIDENTIAL

43 - S
Action

FE
Info

SS
G
SP
SAM
L
H
P
USIA
NSC
INR
CIA
NSA
DOD
RSR

NNNNVV MJA762JIA113
RR RUEHC
DE RUMJIR 1890A 1661500
ZNY CCCCC
R 151403Z
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 5560
INFO RUHLHQ/CINCPAC 2923
STATE
BT

1966 JUN 15 AM 11 49

C O N F I D E N T I A L JUNE 15

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

REF: DEPTEL 3883

1. WE ARE CHECKING VOTING STATISTICS WITH MINISTRY OF INTERIOR. HOWEVER, ON FIRST GLANCE IT APPEARS THAT VN EMBASSY FIGURES QUOTED REFTEL ARE GARBLED AND MISINTERPRETED VERSION OF FIGURES ISSUED BY MINISTRY OF INTERIOR AS OD DECEMBER 31, 1965. THESE WERE: TOTAL POPULATION, 14,570,039 RPT 14,570,039; POPULATION UNDER GOVERMENT CONTROL, 10,510,620 RPT 10,510,620, OR 72 405 72 PERCENT OF NATIONAL TOTAL; AND ESTIMATED ELECTORATE 5,091,843 RPT 5,091,843.

PAGE TWO RUMJIR 1890A C O N F I D E N T I A L

2. DEPT WILL RECALL THAT STATISTICS FOR PROVINCIAL COUNNGL ELECTIONS MAY 30, 1965 WERE: POPULATION UNDER GOVERNMENT CONTROL 9,408,305 RPT 9,408,305 NUMBER OF REGISTRANTS, 4,693,371 RPT 4,693,371 OR 49.8 RPT 49.8 PERCENT OF PERSONS UNDER GOVERNMENT CONTROL; AND NUMBER OF VOTERS, 3,466,525 RPT 3,466,525 OR 73.8 RPT 73.86 PERCENT OF REGISTRANTS.

3. MINISTRY OF INTERIOR FIGURES FOR POPULATION UNDER GOVERNMENT CONTROL CLEARLY UNREALISTIC. (MACV FIGURES FOR END APRIL 1966 ARE 7,849,000 RPT 7,849,000 IN "SECURED AREAS" OF TOTAL 15,000,200 RPT 15,000,2000, OR 52.3 RPT 52.3 PERCENT.) HOWEVER, PROJECTED INCREASE OF REGISTERED ELECTORATE (FROM 4.7 RPT 4.7 MILLION TO 5.1 RPT 5.1 MILLION, OR 8.5 RPT 8.5 PERCENT) IS MUCH MORE REALISTIC.

4. WILL COMMENT BY SEPTEL ON OTHER POINTS RAISED REFTEL.
LODGE
BT

MICROFILMED BY R&R

CONFIDENTIAL

UNCLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

POL 14 VIETS

POL 15 VIETS

INCOMING TELEGRAM Department of State

4

Action
FE

Info
SS
G
SP
SAH
L
H
IO
P
NSC
INR
AID

RSR

UNCLASSIFIED

NNNNVV MJB250JIA905
OO RUEHC
DE RUMJIR 1940A 1670325
ZNR UUUUU
O R 160315Z
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5564
INFO RUNMNF/CG III MAF
RUHLHQ/CINCPAC 2925
ZEN/AMCONSUL HUE 728
STATE GRNC
BT
UNCLAS JUNE 16.

CG MAF III FOR DANANG POLAD THOMSEN 493

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

ENGLISH LANGUAGE VIETNAM PRESS CARRIES FOLLOWING ITEM EVENING EDITION JUNE 15:

QUOTE:

1. DIRECTORY CHAIRMAN LT. GEN. NGUYEN VAN THIEU HAS JUST SIGNED DECREE LAW NO. 020/66 CREATING A PEOPLE AND MILITARY COUNCIL WORKING SIDE BY SIDE WITH THE WAR CABINET, IT WAS REPORTED.

2. THE DECREE LAW CONSISTED OF 15 CLAUSES SETTING FORTH THE COMPOSITION, FUNCTIONS, SALARIES, AS WELL AS THE DISSOLUTION OR DISMISSAL OF THE COUNCIL.

PAGE 2 RUMJIR 1940A UNCLAS
ACCORDING TO THE SPIRIT OF THE DECREE LAW, THE COUNCIL WILL ACT AS CONSULTANT TO THE WAR CABINET IN THE FIELDS OF POLITICS, ECONOMY, CULTURE AND SOCIAL WELFARE.

3. THE COUNCIL WILL BE COMPOSED OF 80 MEMBERS OF WHOM ONE FOURTH IS MILITARY AND THE REST CIVILIANS. THE COUNCIL MEMBERS WILL NOT ENJOY SALARIES AS CIVIL SERVANTS, HOWEVER, THEY WILL RECEIVE ALLOWANCES SET FORTH BY A SUBSEQUENT DECREE OF THE PRIME MINISTER.

4. BESIDES, THE DIRECTORY MAY SIGN A DECREE ABOLISHING AND DISSOLVING THE COUNCIL AS WELL AS DISMISSING ITS MEMBERS. THE FIRST SESSION OF THE COUNCIL WILL BE CONVENED BY THE DIRECTORY CHAIRMAN.

UNCLASSIFIED

15735

1966 JUN 15 PM 11 53

Saigon 5564

UNCLASSIFIED

5. THE COUNCIL WILL HOLD AT LEAST ONE SESSION EVERY MONTH, AND EACH SESSION WILL NOT EXCEED 6 DAYS. AT THE SAME TIME, THE COUNCIL'S AGENDA SHOULD BE SUBMITTED 3 DAYS IN ADVANCE TO THE DIRECTORY COMMITTEE AND THE WAR CABINET.

6. THE PEOPLE MILITARY COUNCIL'S SESSIONS WILL NORMALLY BE CLOSED.

7. HOWEVER, THE COUNCIL MAY HOLD SOME OPEN MEETINGS IF NECESSARY. CABINET MEMBERS, NOTABLES, AND CIVIL SERVANTS MAY BE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THESE SESSIONS, BUT THEY SHOULD BE INFORMED OF

THE AGENDA AT LEAST THREE DAYS IN ADVANCE. (ONE DAY IN URGENT CASES.)

8. THE COUNCIL'S ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS WILL BE PUT UNDER THE RESPONSIBILITY OF AN ADMINISTRATOR GENERAL UNQTE. LODGE
BT

NOTE: ADVANCE COPY TO S/S-O AT 12:07 A.M., 6/16/66
PASSED WHITE HOUSE, DOD, CIA, USIA, NSA AT 12:07 A.M., 6/16/66

UNCLASSIFIED